

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the March 10, 2005/Phalguna 19, 1926 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 155

#### Restructuring of KVIC

921. SHRISUDARSHANAKARAPU: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee for restructuring KVIC had presented its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which the KVIC would be reconstituted?

#### Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana in Gujarat

922. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria laid down for allocation of funds to the States under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana;

(b) whether the funds were allocated proportionately to Gujarat State;

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken to make up the shortfall; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Reservation of goods under S.S.I.

†923. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some items produced under Agro Industry sector have been reserved for Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details of such items; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Employment in Khadi Sector

924. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment in Khadi sector has declined in the recent past and there is stagnation in the sales of Khadi Industries products;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government have decided to revamp Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Cottage Industries in Uttar Pradesh**

925. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any plan to develop the cottage industry especially in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) how much funds were allocated to the State of Uttar Pradesh in the last one year; and
- (d) the amount utilized and the rate of progress?

#### **Agro Industries in Chhattisgarh**

†926. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have made an assessment of the potential of agro-industries in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) to what extent this potential is being exploited; and
- (d) the step Government have taken to develop the marketing facilities in the State for large scale development of agro-industries?

#### **Incentives given by KVIC**

†927. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission gives incentives to the people to set up cottage industries in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such cottage industrial units set up till the end of December, 2004 through the incentive provided by the Commission, State-wise;

(d) the number of persons given employment in the these units, State-wise; and

(e) the number of sick cottage industrial units togetherwith the action proposed to be taken by the Government for revival of such units during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05, State-wise?

#### **Setting up of nuclear power plants**

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared a plan to increase the generation of nuclear power during the next three years;

(b) if so, whether the details have been worked out in regard to setting up of more nuclear power plants;

(c) if so, whether sites have been identified in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Damage caused to Kalpakkam Atomic Power Plant**

929. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:  
SHRI ANAND SHARMA:  
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tsunami water entered Kalpakkam Nuclear Plant and caused some damage in December, 2004;

(b) whether deaths were also reported in the Kalpakkam Housing Colony;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to compensate the families;

(d) whether it is also a fact that an Expert Group inspected the plant to assess the damage caused therein;

(e) if so, the findings of the Expert Group with particular reference to radiation;

(f) the extent of the damage and period of time for which the operations at Kalpakkam had to be shut down; and

(g) special steps being taken to protect the plant from natural calamities such as earthquakes, Tsunami etc. and safety of habitants around the Plant?

**Share of atomic energy in the country**

930. SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA  
MURTHY:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage considered healthy for production of atomic energy in comparison to the total energy production in the country; and

(b) in what manner Government plan to achieve this percentage and by when?

**Safety of Atomic Power Stations in Chennai and Orissa**

931. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS) at Kalpakkam near Chennai is absolutely safe after furious Tsunami tidal waves, in December, 2004;

(b) whether Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) Scientists visited above mentioned station, to examine this from safety angle; and

(c) if so, what preventive measures for safety of such plants, located in Chennai (South) and Orissa etc., were suggested by NPCIL for future precautionary point of view?

**Nuclear project on sea-shore**

932. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) which are the nuclear projects at the sea-shore in the country;

(b) the impact of the recent "Tsunami" on these projects, project-wise; and

(c) whether there are any special plans to protect such projects from future threats of "Tsunami"?

**Nuclear power reactors under construction**

933. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of nuclear power reactors

in the country with their installed capacity and actual power generation;

(b) the details of nuclear power reactor under construction;

(c) the percentage of atomic energy to the total generation of electricity in the country; and

(d) the reason for the low percentage of atomic energy generation?

#### **Safety norms for old atomic plants**

†934. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atomic plants in the country of the age around 25 years or more lack safety norms to a great extent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the alternative arrangements made for checking the safety measures in atomic plants?

#### **Broad band network**

935. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: DR. T. SUBBARAMIREDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the month of January, 2005 Andhra Pradesh approved ambitious and revolutionary Rs. 400 crores project of broad band network to be implemented to consortium of six companies in two years time;

(b) whether a broad-band activity in State will make a quantum leap with this project which envisages to increase the bandwidth of connectivity between State capital and rural areas manifolds compared with the present capacity;

(c) if so, by when the work on this project is likely to start; and

(d) to what extent, it will be helpful to the rural people?

#### **Developing of computing platforms**

936. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMIREDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Intel Corporation announced a partnership with Ministry of Communications and IT to create solutions for making technology more accessible to teachers in India, especially in rural areas, as also to develop 'Computing platforms' to address issues of affordability and local infrastructure conditions;

(b) if so, the main points of agreements reached;

(c) whether Intel will work closely with companies, including original equipment manufacturers, content creation companies and channels to help make PCs more affordable to masses;

(d) if so, to what extent these schemes have been implemented; and

(e) to what extent, it has been helpful for rural people?

#### **Financial implications and viability of the new regime**

937. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) announced a long awaited access deficit charge (ADC) regime aimed at reducing long distance STD

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

call charges and boosting the rural telephone operations;

(b) if so, the details of the new regime, indicating the financial implications and viability thereof and the major objectives of the new regime; and

(c) the reactions and responses of the private telecom operators to the new regime?

#### **Shortage of cable in Assam**

938. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the shortage in supply of cables in Assam, particularly in Barak Valley;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to overcome the cable shortage without any further loss of time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Shareholders of VSNL**

939. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any FIIs who brought shares of VSNL in 1999 have raised any complaint with DoT for prematurely terminating the company's monopoly over ILD sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the strategic partners who are now principal shareholders of VSNL were aware of the premature termination of monopoly before purchasing Government shares in the company?

#### **ADC collections**

940. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total ADC collected after the ADC regulations have come into place with details thereof and break up for each category i.e. incoming and outgoing ILD, incoming and outgoing DLD, fixed line to cell, etc.; and

(b) the corresponding figures of traffic for three years preceding the TRAI regulation?

#### **Concessions to senior citizens**

941. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL has decided to give 25 per cent concession in rental of phones for senior citizens of 65 years of age and above; if so, the details of the scheme;

(b) the reasons for prescribing the age of 65 years when a number of Government department prescribe 60 years for senior citizenship; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the age prescribed in this regard; if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Expansion of mobile services**

942. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of customers of BSNL mobile service are more and the landlines are comparatively less;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to expand the network;

(c) if so, how many new lines are proposed to be added; and

(d) the time-frame for the above?

#### **Expansion and improvement in mobile services in Uttaranchal**

†943. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total percentage of population of Uttaranchal covered by mobile facility so far and the total percentage of population which is likely to be covered under the said facility by the year 2006;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that there are frequent complaints regarding malfunctioning of mobile services being provided by BSNL in the State;

(c) if so, the details of steps being taken for expansion and improvement in the services being provided by BSNL; and

(d) if so, the details of assistance sought and assistance provided for the purpose, State-wise?

#### **Setting up of modern telephone exchanges in Karnataka**

944. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of automatic and modern telephone exchanges set up in Karnataka during last two years, location-wise; and

(b) the details of such exchanges

proposed to be set up in Karnataka during 2004-05?

#### **Outsourcing industries**

945. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of outsourcing as far as India is concerned; and

(b) the efforts so far taken to give fill up to the outsourcing industry in India?

#### **Funds allocated for communication facilities**

946. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to establish knowledge centres with internet and other communication facilities in every villages by 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any funds have been allocated for this project under the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details regarding the funds arrangement to implement this project?

#### **Penalty on Reliance Infocom**

†947. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imposed any penalty on Reliance Infocom for violating license norms by way of forgery;

(b) whether Reliance Infocom has paid amount of penalty; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if not, whether Government have taken any concrete action in this regard?

**Market share of landline telephones**

948. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's teledensity has risen from 7 per cent in March, 2004 to 8.59 per cent in December, 2004;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 87 per cent of the additional phones provided during the current financial year accounted for mobile connections; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the market share of landline telephone connections of MTNL and BSNL?

**Setting up of Information Technology Institute in Orissa**

949. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for establishment of a centrally funded Institute of Information Technology in Orissa has been received by Government from any quarters; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken in the matter?

**Waiting list of telephones in Darbhanga, Bihar**

†950. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the exchange-wise number of telephone waiting list in Darbhanga, Bihar, as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that after taking bribe, telephone connections are provided ignoring the rules of waiting list;

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken against the guilty officials and details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Quality of Services of ISPs**

951. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that services provided by the various Internet Service Providers (ISPs) is not satisfactory;

(b) if so, whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has conducted any study on the quality of ISPs; and

(c) if so, the details of the study conducted and action taken by Government to improve the services of ISPs?

**WLL services in Nagaland**

952. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for providing communication facilities in the rural areas of North-Eastern region, particularly in the State of Nagaland;

(b) the total number of villages in various districts of Nagaland wherein wireless in local loop service has been provided; and

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Modernization of post offices in Nagaland**

953. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the new post offices proposed to be set up in the country particularly in the State of Nagaland during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) whether Government have taken any necessary action for the modernization of existing post offices in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Losses suffered by BSNL and MTNL**

954. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the TRAI has recently passed an order reducing the rate of Access Deficit Charge payable by the private operators to BSNL and MTNL;

(b) if so, the loss incurred by BSNL and MTNL for this reason;

(c) the reasons for taking such a step; and

(d) Government's reactions thereto?

**Deplorable condition of post offices in Eastern Uttar Pradesh**

†955. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all districts in Uttar Pradesh have not yet been connected by Speed Post facility;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the attention is not being paid on modernisation of post offices and sub-post offices of the State at all and all the post offices/sub-post offices are in a deplorable condition especially in Eastern Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the amount sanctioned to State for modernisation during the last three years?

**Report of Consortium of Bankers**

956. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) is planning to buy out the Government's 52 per cent stake in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) and retain subsidiary;

(b) whether it is also a fact that DoT has appointed a Consortium of Bankers led by ICICI Securities (I-Sec) to work on finding modalities for integrating the activities of the two PSUs; and

(c) by when the Consortium of Bankers is likely to submit its report?

**Development of post and telegraph sector in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand**

957. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of post offices as against population in each State, State-wise;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) the names of the States where the post offices are less as compared to other States particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove this disparity; and

(d) the details of the development works undertaken in the Post and Telegraph sector in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand?

#### **Improvement of telecom services in Chhattisgarh**

†958. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private companies are outpacing Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. as it is not providing new connections to the subscribers in time and lagging behind in providing mobile service/ services in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the action taken to improve the services of BSNL and to immediately provide new connections to the general public; and

(c) the details of action taken/to be taken in this regard?

#### **Branch post offices**

959. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of branch post offices that have been sanctioned and opened district-wise during the last three years and till date in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the details of Gram Panchayats, district-wise in Uttar Pradesh that do not have branch post offices; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide postal facilities to all Gram Panchayats in Uttar Pradesh?

#### **Provision of telephones in the villages by private telecom companies**

†960. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the deadline fixed by Government for the private telecom companies to provide telephone facility in the villages;

(b) the number of villages provided with the telecommunication facility so far by the concerned companies;

(c) the company-wise amount of fine recovered from the concerned companies for the failure to meet the deadline; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Pension to postal employees**

961. SHRIDATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Extra Departmental Postal Staff (Gramin Dak Sevak) working in rural areas of the country;

(b) whether these postal employees are given pension after their retirement;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government propose to bring crores of workers of the unorganised sector under social security; and

(e) whether Government have any proposal to give pension to these Gramin Dak Sevaks?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Congestion and call dropping mobile services**

962. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding congestion and call dropping experience by customers of BSNL mobile services;

(b) if so, how many such complaints were received; and

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

**Employees working at Call Centres**

963. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:  
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Call Centres/BPOs functioning in Karnataka;

(b) how many employees are working in these centres;

(c) whether there is any provision in the Union or State Labour Laws to safeguard the working conditions of the employees; and

(d) whether Government have made or propose to make any provision in the proposed new Labour Legislation about the welfare of the employees working at the Call Centres?

**FDI guidelines for telecom sector**

964. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining a proposal to exempt FII holdings in investment companies owned by non-promoter stakeholders while computing indirect foreign ownership in a telecom services company within the 74 per cent ceiling;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, the new FDI guidelines for telecom sector is likely to be announced?

**Merger of MTNL and BSNL**

965. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plan to merge MTNL with BSNL, if so what are the advantages of doing it;

(b) how the subscribers will benefit thereby; and

(c) whether Government have any plan to set uniform rates for entire country, if so the details thereof?

**Computerised trunk exchanges in Assam**

966. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of computerised trunk telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in the State of Assam during the next three years;

(b) the details of such telephone exchanges set up in the State during the last three years; and

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

**Setting up of electronic telephone exchanges**

967. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges to be set up in the State of Assam during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the funds allocated for the same; and

(c) the necessary steps taken by Government in this regard?

**Stabilization of quality of service**

968. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has achieved the stabilization of quality of service, business rules and consumer satisfaction;

(b) if so, whether the illegal activities of certain licensees were properly punished with the present legal empowerment; and

(c) whether there is a need for further strengthening the power of regulatory authority; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Investment in Finland**

969. SHRIMATISYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Finland is requesting Indian IT software firms to

invest and set up a base in Finland and they are offering 50 per cent of the labour and equipment costs of the companies which set up a base in Finland;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the number of software professionals from India that would get employment opportunity;

(c) whether Government would get any benefit by investing in Finland; and

(d) the details thereof?

**Objectives of the National Advisory Board**

970. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up the National Advisory Board on information security and assurance;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the National Advisory Board;

(c) the constitution of the National Advisory Board; and

(d) in which manner, the Board plug the loopholes in the existing legislation, various aspects of information security, global standards, etc.?

**New Wireless Technology**

971. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Canada have signed a pact to develop new wireless technologies to link remote and rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Outstanding amounts of BSNL and MTNL**

†972. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of BSNL and MTNL services outstanding against the various State Governments in the country;

(b) the amount outstanding against various Departments of Government payable to BSNL; and

(c) the action being taken by the BSNL to recover the outstanding amount from different Departments of Government and different State Governments?

**Demand of mobile SIM cards**

973. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons provided with BSNL Mobile SIM cards, so far;

(b) whether there is heavy demand for these SIM cards;

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

(d) the total number of persons seeking the above connection enlisted in the waiting list; and

(e) the steps likely to be taken by Government to clear the above waiting list?

**Intra-circle tariff for NCR towns**

974. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL is issuing Punjab Telecom Cards instead of NOIDA Circle Cards denying subscribers intra-circle tariff for NCR towns;

(b) whether subscribers calling Delhi and NCR towns are not only required to pay double charges but also to use STD codes;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would direct BSNL to look into the issue and ensure subscribers of Delhi-NCR towns are allowed intra-circle tariff?

**Use of post offices as service centres**

975. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices and the strength of their work force; and

(b) whether Government proposed to utilise the post offices to be used as service centres in outsourcing business to make them work without budgetary support?

**Visit of Minister of External Affairs to Pakistan**

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

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Pakistan to continue Indo-Pak confidence building measures;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether he had raised the matter of differences on various issues with Pakistan's Prime Minister and President;

(c) if so, to what extent differences that existed in some of issues have been resolved;

(d) what is latest position of all issues where certain differences existed;

(e) whether all differences have been cleared and whether any agreement reached and signed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Omnibus Appropriation Bill passed by US Congress**

977. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Omnibus Appropriation Bill passed by the US Congress on November 20, 2004, throwing up an additional 20,000 H-1B visas for such visa seekers; and

(b) if so, the number of Indian H-1B visa-seekers awaiting such visas and how many of them qualify for such visas under the new law?

#### **Stoppage of arms supply to Nepal**

978. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stopped arms supply to Nepal Government in the wake of imposition of emergency there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that such stoppage of arms supply will badly affect the Nepal Government's fight against Maoists violence; and

(d) if so, the future strategy of Government, in case Nepal turns out to be a new hostile country in our vicinity?

#### **American aid to Sri Lanka for Tsunami Relief**

979. SHRIMATI IYAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sri Lanka decided to accept 1500 US Marines as part of the US contribution to Tsunami relief work in the island without taking India into confidence first;

(b) if so, whether Government have expressed their concern in this regard and if so, in what manner; and

(c) the final outcome thereof?

#### **Proliferation Security Initiative**

980. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken any decision to join the US-led Proliferation Security Initiatives (PSI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that India's participation in the Initiative does not, in any way, compromise her sovereignty or affect her interest adversely?

#### **Capture of fishing boats by Pakistan**

981. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the fishermen from Saurashtra are forced to take the decision of not fishing in Jakhau region in the event of Pakistan

Government's decision of not releasing their captured boats;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the total cost of captured boats of 150 Indian fishermen is to the tune of Rs. 40 crore; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this matter?

#### **Opening of regional IT centres abroad**

†982. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to establish regional I.T. training centres overseas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the countries where India is going to implement this project?

#### **Arranging marriage of convenience in Britain by NRIs**

983. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of NRIs have been convicted for arranging marriage of convenience of Indians with British nationals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with British Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Foreign Minister's South Korea Visit**

984. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has visited South Korea in December 2004;

(b) if so, how far his visit has strengthened bilateral political and economic relations;

(c) whether domestic industry would be significantly affected adversely by these improved economic relations; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to protect the domestic industries in the wake of economic cooperation with South Korea?

#### **British Foreign Minister's India Visit**

985. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether British Foreign Minister Jack Straw visited India in the third week of February, 2005;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with him and the decisions taken;

(c) the particulars of agreements signed with him;

(d) whether he had ruled out Veto Power for India as a permanent member in the to-be-expanded United Nations Security Council; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Opening of new Consulates in Gulf Countries**

986. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need to open more Consulates in the Gulf countries to assist Indians;

(b) if so, the details of proposals to open such offices;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposed to assist Indian workers in the Gulf to register their problems through the Internet;

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to make access easy to them;

(e) by what time such upgraded facilities would be in place in the Gulf; and

(f) the details thereof?

#### **Agreements with Bhutan**

987. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the topics on which discussions were held between the Governments of India and Bhutan during the visit of the King of Bhutan to India in January 2005;

(b) whether any treaties/understandings were signed between the two countries after the discussions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether an agreement on cooperation in the hydropower sector was also reached; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Stabilisation of nuclear interface between India and Pakistan**

988. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the emerging global security environment, conventional military conflicts between Nation States may assume nuclear overtones, resulting in devastation on unprecedented scale; and

(b) if so, what steps, at diplomatic level or through people-to-people contact, are

envisaged between India and Pakistan to stabilise their nuclear interface so that such a catastrophe could be avoided for all time to come, even if minor irritants continue to be discussed and gradually solved through ongoing official and non-official delegations meeting each other, periodically?

#### **Sale of nuclear technology by Pakistan**

989. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is clandestinely selling its nuclear technology to countries like Saudi Arabia, North Korea, etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction to this fact and in what manner it is trying to counter this?

#### **Depiction of Hindu deities and symbols on undergarments**

†990. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the people belonging to Hindu Community residing in America are deeply anguished over printing photos of Hindu deities and religious symbols on undergarments of women and making the same available on the internet;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have lodged its protest with the Government of America for banning the same; and

(d) if so, reaction of Government of America thereto?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Target for employment opportunities**

†991. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the target  
fixed for generation of additional  
employment opportunities during the Tenth  
Five Year Plan is likely to be achieved;

(b) if not, Government's reaction  
thereto;

(c) the year-wise average additional  
employment opportunities generated during  
the past years of the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) the figures by which they are less  
than the target; and

(e) the average number of additional  
employment opportunities required to be  
generated to achieve the target fixed in the  
coming years?

**Annual growth rate of employment**

†992. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether Government have made any  
assessment with regard to growth in  
agriculture, industries, export-import  
business and service sectors in the country  
as well as the generation of employment  
opportunities;

(b) if so, the details of this assessment;  
and

(c) the annual growth rate of agriculture,  
industries, export-import business and  
service sectors and the annual growth rate  
of the additional employment generation  
in the country during the years 1993 to  
2000?

**Percentage of workers in various  
sectors**

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

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

(a) whether Government have made an  
assessment regarding the percentage of the  
people who are earning their livelihood in  
the agriculture, industries, business and  
service sectors, respectively, in the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of people who  
are employed in the above sectors;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a  
suggestion to provide employment to the  
people, *i.e.* 44 per cent in agriculture, 21  
per cent in industry and 35 per cent in the  
service sectors-by the year 2020 in the  
country has come up before Government;  
and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government to  
this suggestion?

**Check on private placement agencies**

994. SHRI JANARDHANA  
POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR  
AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether in the absence of an  
effective employment exchanges, private  
placement services have mushroomed  
across the country;

(b) if so, the number of such private  
placement agencies in the country,  
State-wise;

(c) whether there are innumerable  
instances of the candidates sponsored by  
such agencies indulging in serious criminal  
acts;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(d) whether these agencies exploit and intimidate persons registered with them for employment, most often cornering 50 per cent of their pay every month as their commission; and

(e) if so, what measures are contemplated to safeguard the interest and safety of both the sponsored persons and the absorbing establishments?

**Scheme for unorganised sector workers**

995. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are nearly forty crore workers in the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to regulate the employment and condition of services of this unorganised sector workers to provide for their safety, social security, health, welfare, etc.;

(c) whether the views of trade unions, workers associations or other NGOs being solicited; and

(d) if so, by when Government propose to initiate such measures?

**Rescue of child labour in hazardous employment**

996. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to redefine hazardous employment in order to rescue the child labours from such employments and to implement the action plan of the Prime Minister in this regard; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Employment exchanges in Gujarat**

997. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment exchanges functioning in the State of Gujarat, District-wise; and

(b) the details of number of unemployed youths registered with each exchange during the last two years?

**Computerization of EPFO**

998. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that EPFO, a public organisation which is handling over Rs. 1 lakh crore of people's money is not open itself to scrutiny and transparency;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's stand thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the project for computerisation has not been taken up yet as it will hurt a section of officers that may have any intentions to gain from the lack of transparency; and

(d) if so, what steps has been taken by Government to arrest the evil mind of the officers in EPFO and by when will the project of computerization in EPFO be started?

**Posting of Welfare Commissioners**

999. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a system of rotating Welfare Commissioners who are posted in State capitals after three years;

(b) if so, whether Government have implemented this policy;

(c) whether it is a fact that too often and too many times the same officers are being posted at the same place for decades together;

(d) what steps would be taken by Government to rotate all officers who have served at the same place in any job for a period of over four years;

(e) the number of such Welfare Commissioners who have been working at the same geographical location for more than four years; and

(f) the steps proposed to improve the delivery system of welfare measures?

#### **Group insurance for workers engaged in construction industry**

†1000. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to safeguard the interests of around three crores of workers employed in construction-industry throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any plan to get the group insurance of the said workers through their employers?

#### **Women labourers**

†1001. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a woman labourer has to carry an average weight of 32000 kgs in an eight-hour shift;

(b) whether women labourers are paid less in comparison to male labourers; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps in this regard?

#### **Unemployed engineers in the country**

†1002. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 130,000 youths in the country had completed engineering course by the end of 2003;

(b) if not, the exact figures thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that out of above only 80,000 youths were successful in getting employment; and

(d) if not, the facts thereof?

#### **Welfare policy of workers**

†1003. SHRIMATI KUM KUMRAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pace of selling the indigenous and multi-national companies of various Public Sector Undertakings is not coming down;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the rights of the workers are being taken away one by one;

(c) whether Government have formulated any welfare policy to prevent the taking away of the rights of the workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Supervision of EPFO**

1004. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether (Employees Provident

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been brought directly under the supervision of PMO; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Hike in the EPF interest rate**

1005. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the recent hike in the EPF interest rate to 9.5% Government expect a deficit of over Rs. 950.00 crores;

(b) if so, whether to gap this deficit the Finance Ministry has been asked to provide a bail-out package; and

(c) whether the Trade Unions have been demanding Government's budgetary support for any shortfall in the EPFO's interest account?

#### **Forecast of Tsunami**

†1006. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain countries of the Pacific region had been in receipt of the forecast regarding the disaster well in advance;

(b) if so, the reasons for the failure of Government to be aware of the same;

(c) whether any scientists/institutes had presented any Tsunami Disaster forecast and research proposal to Government; and

(d) if so, the specific reasons for not taking any notice of the same?

#### **Probability of recurrence of Tsunami**

†1007. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an organisation of scientists has expressed a strong possibility of recurrence of Tsunami disaster in Mumbai and Orissa at any time;

(b) if so, steps being taken by Government to cope with the said situation;

(c) whether scientists have also suggested some measures for protection against the said disaster; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Commissioning of "Sagar Purvi"**

1008. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Ocean Development has commissioned the Research Vessel "Sagar Purvi" to access the impact of Tsunami on the marine life and water quality;

(b) whether the vessel "Sagar Purvi" is equipped with modern machines to carry on the research work on marine plants etc; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Warning of Tsunami like storms**

1009. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some scientists/experts have warned that Tsunami like storms would strike again in Indian Ocean;

(b) whether Government are considering the warning seriously; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Desertion of wives by NRIs**

1010. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been many cases of desertion of wives by non-resident Indian husbands;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Allocation of IAS cadre to handicapped persons**

1011. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that physically handicapped candidates selected in the Central Services Examination are not being allocated to IAS and other Central Services;

(b) if so, the reason for such discrimination;

(c) whether any steps have been initiated to reserve certain number of posts in IAS and other All India Central Services for the physically handicapped candidates who successfully clear Civil Services Examinations; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

#### **Implementation of Pay Commission report regarding pensions**

1012. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the plight of pensioners who are awaiting Government's orders on the fulfilment of two major recommendations of Fifth Pay

Commission, namely restoration of commuted portion of pension after 12 years and grant of 0.5 per cent additional pension for every six months over and above 33 years of service; and

(b) by when Government are likely to issue orders in regard thereto?

#### **Recruitment in Government Departments**

1013. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have stopped recruitment in Government departments;

(b) if so, the logic behind such a move; and

(c) if not, the details of the employment generated by Government in various departments?

#### **Promotion of Private Secretaries**

1014. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in the promotion of Private Secretaries to Principal Private Secretaries as compared to Section Officers to Under Secretaries in the Central Government;

(b) the details of the guidelines exist for promotion of PS to PPS and that of Section Officer to Under Secretary; and

(c) whether the above guidelines are being followed?

#### **Equal opportunity to disabled persons for Civil Services**

1015. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering

a proposal to give persons with disability an equal opportunity to join the Central Civil Services; and

(b) if so, the date by which the existing rules would be amended to make the Central Services fully accessible to the disabled persons?

#### **Pending cases of CBI**

1016. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are large number of cases under investigation of CBI where charges could not be framed even after years of investigations;

(b) if so, the details of cases pending over three years where charges have not been framed;

(c) the present status of these cases and reasons for delay; and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite finalisation of charges or their disposal?

#### **IAS officers in Karnataka**

1017. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of IAS officers working in Karnataka;

(b) whether there is a provision for promoting State level officers to IAS cadre;

(c) if so, how many names of State level officers have been recommended by the Karnataka Government being promoted to IAS cadre; and

(d) the action, if any, taken in this regard?

#### **Raids conducted by CBI**

1018. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation during the last three years;

(b) the details of the property unearthed during the raids by CBI;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints against the CBI officers for their illegal and corruptive nature; and

(d) if so, the details of corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken for the effective functioning of CBI?

#### **Appointment of handicapped persons**

†1019. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to provide reservation to the handicapped persons while selecting candidates from All India Civil Services Examinations and if so, percentage thereof in the service and the year of examination from which this reservation order would become applicable;

(b) whether certain candidates who have appeared in the Civil Services Examination, 2002, been given the reservation benefit; and

(c) whether all such handicapped candidates about whom order were issued for selection have been given appointments and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Abolition of Administrative Tribunals**

1020. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move to abolish

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the Administrative Tribunals that are in existence now;

(b) if so, the background for such initiative;

(c) whether the alternative arrangement has been conceived to take care of the task; and

(d) whether such system would be foolproof and effective?

#### **CBI raids in Kerala**

1021. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI conducted any raids in Kerala since the assumption of this Government into power, and thereby registered cases, if any either against public men or Government officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the income unearthed disproportionate to their known sources; and

(c) whether any illegal Telephone Exchange was detected in Kerala consequent on to such raids and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Backward districts of Gujarat**

†1022. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the poor and backward districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme for development of these districts;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on the said schemes;

(d) whether Government have been requested to contribute to these schemes; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **Utilisation of allocation by State Governments**

†1023. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several State Governments have not utilised their respective amount allocated under the annual plan over the years;

(b) if so, the names of such State Governments which have not utilised their respective amount of money allocated under the annual plan during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04; and

(c) the amount utilised by these States during each year of the above period and the amount of money returned to the Central Government due to non-utilisation?

#### **Handing over of certain schemes to States**

†1024. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal of handing over of some schemes to the State Governments out of the schemes being run for development of the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and names of the schemes as per the proposal for which decision has been taken to hand over to the State Governments; and

(c) the details of benefits likely to be

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

accrued by handing over said schemes to the State Governments and decision taken so far in this regard?

#### **Termination and merging of schemes**

†1025. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to terminate or to merge certain schemes out of a large number of Centrally funded schemes into other schemes after identifying them;

(b) if so, the details of such proposal and names of schemes under the same which are being considered;

(c) whether it is also a fact that termination or merger of the said schemes would lead to Government's financial savings; and

(d) if so, the amount estimated to be saved?

#### **Employment to youths**

†1026. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any effective national policy for providing employment to 54 crores of youths and creating more and more means of employment in rural areas in the country;

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

(c) Government's response thereon?

#### **Percentage of BPL families**

1027. SHRIMATILAL SARKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population below poverty line according to the latest available report, State-wise;

(b) the change in the percentage of BPL families during the last five years;

(c) whether family-based programmes have been taken to uplift the BPL families;

(d) the income limit to identify the BPL families; and

(e) the base-year of this income-limit and the necessity of changing it in the context of present day scenario?

#### **Fund to Kerala for health and education**

1028. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Competent Authority didn't allot fund to Kerala in education and health sector while providing this to many other States;

(b) if so, the details including the criteria adopted for granting fund and the fund provided to other States in health and education sector during the period 2004-05, category-wise and State-wise;

(c) if so, the reasons for not providing fund to Kerala;

(d) whether steps would be taken to provide fund to Kerala for improving the health and educational infrastructure;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Setting up of Scientific Advisory Council**

1029. SHRI B.J. PANDA:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up Scientific Advisory Council to boost the scientific activities in the country; and

(b) if so, its constitution and jobs that would be entrusted to this Council?

**Resource invested in manpower**

1030. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:  
Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that lack of trained staff coupled with inadequate computing machines has resulted in the country being ten years behind in weather prediction as compared to the West;

(b) whether it is a fact that in developed countries about 70 per cent of the resources are invested on manpower, while in India it is mere 20 per cent; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to invest in trained manpower and computers to analyse the available information for better weather predictions?

**Cyclone forecasting**

1031. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism to forecast cyclones in advance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of days in advance cyclone forecasting is being done presently;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to improve the accuracy of cyclone forecasts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Climatic changes due to Tsunami**

1032. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been phenomenal change in the climatic conditions like fall in the temperature, cloudy nature etc., in the wake of recent Tsunami;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government have intended to make any study on the said aspects by the Indian Meteorological Department in the Tsunami, affected areas of the country?

**Forecasts of Indian Meteorological Department**

1033. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has enough technology to predict the cyclones but we are not able to communicate the warnings to the people properly;

(b) the steps that are being taken by Government to see that the forecasts of India Meteorological Department (IMD) are taken seriously by the common man; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the credibility of IMD has come down drastically in the eyes of the common man due to its continued failure in forecasts?



#### **Development of HIV/AIDS vaccine**

1034. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether further tests on the HIV/AIDS vaccine is being developed by our scientists;

(b) if so, the details regarding the Scientists and Research Institutes in India involved in this project;

(c) if so, whether sufficient funds and special package of funds had been released to expedite the results of this most vital research project, whose success would save several millions of AIDS affected people in India and World from death;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government would assure of releasing a special package of funds for this project immediately?

#### **Warning System for natural calamities**

1035. SHRI G.K. VASAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up warning system for natural disasters is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **92nd Indian Science Congress**

1036. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the deliberations of the 92nd Indian Science Congress held at Ahmedabad recently;

(b) if so, the details of major observations made and conclusions reached at the Congress; and

(c) the details of any fresh studies launched and policy initiatives taken in the light of the deliberations of the Indian Science Congress towards meeting the basic needs of the people through science?

#### **Inland water transport system**

1037. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether poor infrastructure hits inland water transport;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the inland water transport system in the country;

(c) whether any concrete programme of action has been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details of the same?

#### **National Maritime Development Policy**

1038. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated/finalized "National Maritime Development Policy";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time-frame within which the policy would be finalized?

#### **Reconstitution of NHAI**

†1039. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to reconstitute National Highway Authority of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

#### **Shortage of officers on ships**

1040. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Director General of Shipping, on behalf of the maritime fraternity and the Norwegian Shipping Owners Association has signed a MoU in connection with the shortage of officers on ships;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a shortage of more than 500 Senior Officers in the four categories of Masters-Chief Engineers, Chief Officers and Second Engineers in the Indian ships;

(c) if so, the reasons behind such a shortage; and

(d) in what manner the MoU help the Indian maritime fraternity and reduce the crew members?

#### **Repairing of National Highways in Tamil Nadu**

1041. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy decision has been taken for the construction and repair of the damaged and ruined National Highways in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any time-frame has been

fixed for the construction/repair of the said National Highways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Tsunami's effect on Sethu Samudram Yojana**

†1042. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any shift in the 'Sethu Samudram Yojana' has been made owing to Tsunami tragedy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Upgradation of NH-28**

1043. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has approved a loan to upgrade the stretch of National Highway No. 28;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names and other details of the projects under the National Highway Development Programme supported by World Bank Loan; and

(d) the details of terms and conditions fixed with World Bank with regard to above mentioned project?

#### **Overbridge on NH-52**

1044. SHRI SILVIUS CONDAPAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made for construction of concrete bridge at Mangaldoi town in Assam on National Highway-52;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the financial assistance provided to Assam Government for repair/construction of bridges under C.R.F. for Flood Damage Repair (FDR) during 2004-05;

(c) whether the funds already released has been fully utilized by the Assam Government; and

(d) the steps that have been taken to construct the long pending overbridges at Changsari and Thekeraguri Railway level crossings in Assam between Rangiya and Chaparmuka Railway route falling on National Highway starting from Guwahati to Tinsukia?

#### **Design Technology for new flyovers**

1045. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Government has received any proposal/design-technology for the construction of new flyover in Delhi within 36 hours having life expectancy of 50 years which is successfully operating in America's Texas city;

(b) if so, the Government's response and reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government are considering to use this new technology in the country particularly in the metropolitan cities like Mumbai to save money and time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Committee on Infrastructure**

1046. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Committee on Infrastructure;

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

(c) whether the Committee has made any recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Completion of Golden Quadrilateral Project**

†1047. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Golden Quadrilateral National Highway project would be completed as per schedule;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(c) whether Government propose to give certain incentives for timely completion of road projects or impose penalty on delay in its completion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Lack of roads in Mumbai**

†1048. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch a ferry service in the sea to remove the heavy difficulties being faced daily by the citizens of Mumbai due to thick population and limited roads in Mumbai;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government has submitted any proposal to Government for launching a ferry service in the sea;

(c) the date on which this proposal was submitted together with the decision taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Damage of Coastal Shipping by Tsunami**

1049. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had made any assessment of the damage caused to coastal shipping, recently due to the Tsunami;

(b) if so, the bodies which did the damage assessment and impact of the Tsunami on coastal shipping;

(c) to what extent Government are being prepared to meet the challenge of such natural disasters to Indian shipping;

(d) whether it is a fact that most of our shipping was exposed to this hazard; and

(e) the steps proposed to be put in place a modern system to protect Indian shipping from the dangers of natural disasters?

### **Employment of foreign marine officers**

1050. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shipping companies opting for Tonnage Tax stipulation have been turning out adequate number of trained marine officers through in-house training facilities;

(b) whether there is a shortage of more than 500 senior officers in the mercantile marine cadres;

(c) if so, whether the shipping companies have sought the permission of Government to employ foreign marine officers on board; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

### **Concern over Sethu Samudram project**

1051. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sethu Samudram project on completion would allow our ships to sail from our West to East coast on its own territorial waters avoiding circling of Sri Lanka thereby cutting short the distance by about 730 kms. and saving up to 36 hours of sailing time;

(b) whether the environmentalists have expressed serious concern over this project;

(c) if so, the details of their concerns; and

(d) action plan of Government to suspend their apprehension and the time-frame within which it would be taken up for execution?

### **Proposals regarding NH-7**

†1052. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of proposals received from Government of Madhya Pradesh for improvement works on National Highway No. 7 and the action taken on them so far; and

(b) the details of the proposals and by when the proposals would be approved?

### **Overbridge on NH-7**

†1053. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal regarding

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

construction of overbridge in Mehar Nagar on National Highway No. 7 passing through Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the cost thereof; and

(c) by when the approval is likely to be accorded?

#### **Kollam by-pass phase 3 and 4**

1054. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest stage of National Highway Kollam bypass phases 3 and 4;

(b) whether phases 3 and 4 Kollam bypass are included in the recently announced National Highway Development Programme of Rs. 3052 crores in Kerala;

(c) if so, the cost estimated for the completion of phases 3 and 4 of Kollam bypass;

(d) whether the work is proposed to commence;

(e) by when it is expected to be completed; and

(f) the details thereof?

#### **Implementation of Sagar - Mala project**

1055. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time-schedule for implementation of Sagar - Mala project for improvement of port facilities;

(b) the progress in respect of Sagar - Mala project in the case of the Kolkata - Haldia-Kulp-Sagar port/anchorage complex; and

(c) the funds allotted for the project in respect of the proposed port complex mentioned in part (b) above?

#### **Demand for a freight regulator**

1056. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Merchant Chambers, Freight Interest Forum and others are demanding for a freight regulator in line with Federal Maritime Commission to control the frequent rise in shipping freight rates;

(b) if so, whether the issue has been discussed with the Ministry of Commerce since it is also involved in the trade of the country; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussion?

#### **Legislation on SSI Development Bill**

1057. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce a legislation on Small Scale Industries Development Bill;

(b) if so, whether purpose of Bill is statutory backing for preferential price and purchase policy for SSI units;

(c) if so, the other purpose of this Bill;

(d) whether ministry has been able to ascertain the view of small scale industries about purpose of the Bill;

(e) if so, how many of their suggestions have been incorporated with the proposed Bill; and

(f) whether this Bill is likely to be introduced during current Session of Parliament?

### **Closed SSIs in the country**

1058. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey during the last three years and till date, to find out the number of small, medium and big small scale industries which are lying closed in the different States of the country, State-wise;

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

(c) the steps being taken by Government for the revival of these closed SSIs?

### **SSIs in Assam**

1059. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Small Scale Industries set up newly and revived during the period 2002-05 in the country;

(b) the number of such industries, either newly set up or revived sick industries in Assam; and

(c) the funds sanctioned for the same, so far?

### **New law for balanced development of SSI**

†1060. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDEWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for formulating a new simple law for balanced development of Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, by when the proposed law is likely to be formulated;

(c) if not, the reasons for non-development of small scale industries as per expectation; and

(d) the details of the efforts being made by Government in this regard?

### **Impacter mission on moon**

1061. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether departing from its earlier plan, ISRO has decided to land on moon through its moon mission called Chandrayan;

(b) whether the Lunar craft carrier, a 25 Kg. impactor would ultimately lands on the moon;

(c) what exactly is the impactor mission on moon; and

(d) In the light of the change in the plan, what would be the cost escalation from the original Rs. 400 crores?

### **Temperature over Indian Ocean**

1062. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ISRO has found that the temperature over a vast stretch of the Indian Ocean had dropped significantly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Arrangements for the Commonwealth Games**

†1063. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:  
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the arrangements already made by Government keeping in

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

view the proposed Commonwealth Games to be held in the year 2010;

(b) the steps Government are taking to increase the number of hotels and flights and making proper arrangements keeping in view the arrival of tourists during the games; and

(c) the complete details thereof?

#### **Expenditure on Commonwealth Games**

1064. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are way behind its proposed schedule for the Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) if so, the basic road blocks in the completion of certain projects for the Commonwealth Games;

(c) the steps taken by the various authorities in this regard;

(d) the total expenditure made by Government in the preparation for Commonwealth Games till date; and

(e) by when the entire projects for the Commonwealth Games would be completed?

#### **Publicity of functions of Nehru Yuvak Kendra**

1065. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to publicise the functions of Nehru Yuvak Kendra among the youths in villages by proper advertisements and conducting camps;

(b) if so, the steps Government are going to take in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Target for Commonwealth Games**

1066. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been finally decided to hold next Commonwealth Games in Delhi in 2010;

(b) if so, whether the work is progressing as per schedule and whether any target has been fixed to finish the work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Commonwealth Games**

1067. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Commonwealth Games which India is scheduled to host may be in jeopardy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to remove the wrangles?

#### **Education on HIV-AIDS**

1068. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to include the population education and education of HIV-AIDS including reproductive health in the Educational Curriculum as envisaged in the National Youth Policy-2003;

(b) the States in which such education is already in place; and

(c) the response of the HRD Ministry and State Governments in this regard?

#### **Victory and defeat of India at International events**

†1069. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many times India attained victories during the last five years in various sports events organised at the international level;

(b) the names of events in which India won medals; and

(c) whether after the return of the players from various sports meets, any review is carried out in the Ministry regarding victory and defeat?

#### **Shortage of coaches**

1070. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of coaches for various games in the country;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to employ expert coaches from abroad for the next Commonwealth Games proposed to be held in 2010; and

(c) the estimated cost of deploying coaches in various sports activities?

#### **Assessment of President of Commonwealth Games Federation**

1071. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Commonwealth Games Federation President recently visited Delhi

to assess the preparedness for the 2010 Commonwealth Games scheduled to be held in Delhi;

(b) if so, what was his assessment in the matter as communicated to Government authorities and the Indian Olympic Association;

(c) the response of Government and I.O.A. to his observation; and

(d) what measures are proposed to be taken to ensure high quality of living facilities required to be provided to the athletes and that all games venues are well prepared?

#### **India's performance in International sports events**

†1072. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have started preparations for the Commonwealth Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the performance of India has always remained dismal in International sports events; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remove such shortcomings?

#### **Talented players in Jharkhand**

1073. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growing number of girls from tribal families in Jharkhand have been demonstrating their skills in sports, particularly in Hockey;

(b) whether girls in Jharkhand are given focused attention with a view to training

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



Hockey players and identifying talented sportspersons and athletes among them;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether several accomplished girl athletes/sportspersons belonging to tribal families in the state are forced to take up undesirable and lowly professions like selling liquor, processing bidi etc. for their subsistence due to acute poverty; and

(e) if so, the steps taken, if any, to support them?

#### **Revenue collection through Commonwealth Games**

1074. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated expenses to be incurred for conducting the Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) the estimated area to be earmarked for the sports complex to conduct these games;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Games Supervising Committee has pulled up our country for the delay in submission of the project details;

(d) the total estimated number of countries and the people who will be participating in these games; and

(e) the expected revenue collection through these games for the country?

#### **Bureaucrats hold on sports academies**

†1075. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to make it mandatory to appoint former hockey players as the office bearers of IHF, the representative organisation of hockey, the National Sport of India;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the bureaucrats hold on sports academies?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 4th March, 2005*  
*Phalguna 13, 1926 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

<b>Prime Minister</b>	: —
<b>Agro and Rural Industries</b>	: 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927,
<b>Atomic Energy</b>	: 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934,
<b>Communications and Information Technology</b>	: 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975,
<b>External Affairs</b>	: 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990,
<b>Labour and Employment</b>	: 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005,
<b>Ocean Development</b>	: 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009,
<b>Overseas Indian Affairs</b>	: 1010,
<b>Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</b>	: 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021,
<b>Planning</b>	: 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028,
<b>Science and Technology</b>	: 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036,
<b>Shipping, Road Transport and Highways</b>	: 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056,
<b>Small Scale Industries</b>	: 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060,
<b>Space</b>	: 1061, 1062,
<b>Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>	: —
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1075.