

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the March 10, 2006/Phalguna 19, 1927 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 155

#### Markets for perishable commodities

1936. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for  
modern markets for perishable  
commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof including  
the mode of setting up of the markets, the  
details of partnership and the States  
identified for the purpose;

(c) the States which submitted the  
proposals/shown the interest for these  
markets;

(d) whether steps will be taken to  
establish these markets in all the States;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the total budget proposed for the  
above proposal, as on today?

#### Reducing post harvest losses

1937. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO: Will the Minister of  
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the techniques developed by ICAR  
to minimize the losses in agricultural  
produce, especially fruits and vegetables  
in the country;

(b) whether the Central Institute of  
Post Harvest Engineering and Technology  
is doing anything in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance given by the National  
Horticulture Board to the farmers to reduce  
post-harvesting losses?

#### Recommendations of National Commission on Farmers

1938. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the  
Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National  
Commission on Farmers, headed by M.S.  
Swaminathan, has submitted its third  
report recently and recommended *inter-alia*  
the creation of a single market for farm  
produce by removing all the remaining  
controls and barriers in inter-state  
movement of goods and changing the  
marketing laws; and

(b) if so, the details of other major recommendations/observations made by the Commission and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

**Production rate of foodgrains, fruits, etc.**

†1939. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production rate of fruits, vegetables, rice, pulses, wheat, etc. in the country is not only lower than the average production rate of these items in the world, but the same is even lower than that in China, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Brazil, etc.;

(b) if not, the details in this regard alongwith the production rate of above items in each of the countries mentioned above as well as the average production rate in the world;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in addition to lower average production rate of the above items, their production cost is also higher; and

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

**Purchase of fishing vessels**

1940. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have plans to fund the direct purchase of fishing vessels through loans and subsidies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have tied up

with any bank like NABARD to meet the need for funding for acquisition of fishing trawlers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds released to the Indian firms acquiring deep sea fishing vessels particularly the tuna boats, so far?

**Fund for agricultural research**

†1941. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision for optimum modernisation and strengthening of agriculture on the basis of scientific researches and its outcome in the field of agricultural development;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have taken a decision to create a national fund for agricultural research; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard, so far, alongwith the details thereof?

**Wastage of crop during harvesting and marketing**

†1942. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major part of the crops of farmers, constituting about 65 per cent of our population in the country, engaged in agriculture sector goes waste during the process of harvesting and taking the crop to the market;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no provision for its prevention has been made in any of the budgets;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

#### **Oilseeds production**

1943. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of oilseeds produced in the country for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the demand for oilseeds during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether imports were made during that period to meet the demand;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, country-wise and year-wise and amount spent thereon; and
- (e) the target fixed for the production of oilseeds for 2006 and the steps being taken to achieve the same?

#### **Target for agricultural growth**

1944. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the target fixed for growth of agriculture during each of the years of Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans;
- (b) the actual growth rate achieved during each of those years;
- (c) the reasons for decline in growth rate of agriculture, if any, year-wise;
- (d) what steps are proposed to be taken to boost the growth rate of agriculture; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Working of KVKs and ATMAs**

1945. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are working satisfactorily in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether there is a difference of opinion between KVKs and Agriculture Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) regarding forwarding the action plan through ATMAs; and
- (d) if so, the remedial steps taken to avoid the differences of opinion?

#### **Wastage of agriculture produce**

1946. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of agriculture products wasted during the period 2002-2005 due to bad quality of seeds and pesticides, year-wise and product-wise; and
- (b) the actions being taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Impact of agricultural import on Indian agriculture**

1947. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have conducted any study in Uttaranchal to assess the impact of liberalized import of agriculture products on Indian agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Agriculture Produce Market Committees**

1948. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many States have passed laws negating monopoly of Agriculture Produce Market Committees;

(b) how many States are likely to pass laws negating Agriculture Produce Market Committees and by when; and

(c) the impact of negating the Agriculture Produce Market Committees on the farmers?

**Insurance claims of sugarcane growers of Andhra Pradesh**

1949. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of help extended to the sugarcane growers of Andhra Pradesh who have lost heavily due to severe floods last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that those farmers have not been paid the insurance money, so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Occupational deaths of fishermen**

1950. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether occupational deaths are high among fishermen;

(b) if so, whether proper safety measures are being taken to protect them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**KVKs in Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh**

1951. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for sanctioning Krishi Vigyan Kendras especially in hilly and backward areas of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the names and districts of Uttaranchal where such Kendras are proposed to be set up?

**Setting up of Kisan Vikas Parishads**

1952. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Kisan Vikas Parishads so as to resolve the problems of farmers; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Spurious pesticides**

1953. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that spurious pesticides are flooding the market and these are costing heavily to the agrochem industry;

(b) if so, the magnitude of this menace;

(c) whether Government are aware that these pesticides are a threat to the farmers and the agrochemical industry; and

(d) if so, the action plan of Government to curb this menace?

**Foreign-funding of agricultural projects**

1954. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural projects being funded by foreign countries and international agencies;

(b) the present status of the ongoing agricultural projects, State-wise;

(c) whether any fresh projects seeking external assistance has been received from the States; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and the response of Government thereto?

**Harvesting agricultural biodiversity**

1955. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Government are utilizing agricultural biodiversity to reduce poverty and hunger and also to improve the lives of rural people in a sustained manner; and

(b) the manner in which biodiversity helps in meeting the millennium development goals?

**Allocations to Rajasthan under Macro Management Scheme**

1956. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to Rajasthan during the last three years under Macro Management Scheme;

(b) the funds, so far, utilized by the State, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to popularise Macro Management Scheme?

**Saving cum relief scheme**

1957. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for sanction of National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen Saving-cum-Relief Scheme for the year 2005-06, with a total outlay of Rs. 40.72 lakhs;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government had been requested to release its share of Rs. 20.36 lakhs for this Scheme;

(f) if so, whether the Central Government would assure of releasing it at the earliest; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Demand of organic crops of Maharashtra in international market**

1958. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is more demand of organic crops of Maharashtra in international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided by Government to farmers?

(b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) the action taken thereon, so far?

#### **Accreditation of the State seed certification agency**

1959. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra have submitted a proposal to APEDA for accreditation of the State seed certification agency for organic farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

#### **Dryland farming**

1960. SHRI S. S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new scheme known as Enhancing Sustainability of Dryland Farming Systems has been launched by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to extend this scheme to other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Cold storages in Andhra Pradesh**

1961. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up of cold storages in Andhra Pradesh;

#### **MSP for pulses**

1962. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to prescribe minimum support price for pulses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Land management**

†1963. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gross domestic product of the country has been falling to 1.3 per cent due to poor land management;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether any scheme for proper land management has been forwarded to State Governments; and

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

#### **National Research Centre for Pomegranate**

1964. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to establish a National Research Centre for Pomegranate at Solapur in Maharashtra;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

#### **Unified research**

†1965. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no growth in the fields of agro-products due to a very slow pace and process of research and exploration in the agricultural sector of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that for lack of co-ordination between agriculture universities, agriculture science centres and central research institutes in the field of integrated research for increasing the growth rate of agriculture sector, the intended results are not being achieved in providing the farmers with the seeds of high yielding varieties, hybrid varieties, and of certified quality; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **National Agriculture Authority**

1966. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when the National Agriculture Authority was constituted;

(b) the details of members of this Authority;

(c) whether it is a fact that some senior officers have refused to join this Authority at Chennai;

- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to improve this body?

#### **Rate of livestock growth**

†1967. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of livestock has been more in comparison to the agricultural growth during the last decades;

- (b) if so, the growth rate of the livestock;

(c) whether it is also a fact that still there are possibilities of increase in this rate; and

(d) if so, the target of the annual growth rate of livestock during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

#### **Approval for Bt. Cotton**

1968. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has approved 18 new hybrids of Bt. Cotton for planting in India;

(b) if so, the details of varieties and the States to which they are recommended;

(c) the total acres in which Bt. Cotton was grown in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Bt. Cotton has failed in States like Andhra Pradesh;

- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) what are the reasons for again approving the varieties of Bt. Cotton by GEAC; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(g) how far the cotton yield per acre has increased thereby in different States?

**Services and closure of CIFT,  
Kozhikode**

1969. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 574 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 2006 and state:

(a) whether the Research Centre of CIFT at Kozhikode is having substantial revenue from various sources;

(b) if so, whether above Centre is rendering its services to fisherman community of Malabar region; and

(c) if so, whether steps would be taken to continue the functioning of the above Centre?

**Drug pricing policy**

1970. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of controlled and control free drugs and branded and non-branded drugs;

(b) the existing policy on pricing of each category of drugs;

(c) whether proposals have been received by Government for imposing trade margins on each category of drugs both for wholesale and retail; and

(d) if so, the details and reaction of Government thereon?

**Closure of fertilizer units**

1971. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received suggestions/recommendations to close down certain chemical fertilizer production units;

(b) if so, the authority from which the said suggestions/recommendations have been received;

(c) the name of units which are proposed to be closed down; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

**Recommendations of Mashelkar  
Committee**

1972. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mashelkar Committee on spurious drugs has recommended to amend the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and rules to include a range of herbal and cosmetic formations in its purview; and

(b) if so, the details and the steps initiated by Government to amend the law?

**Import of cheap drugs from  
China**

1973. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the import of cheap drugs from China has hit the drug manufacturers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to protect the interest of bulk drug manufacturers in the country?



### **Excise duty on drugs**

1974. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the excise duty imposed on all the drugs are uniform in all States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Mega chemical hub at Haldia**

1975. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved setting up of a mega chemical hub at Haldia in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) how far this unit will contribute to the growth of the polyester and textile industries in the country?

### **Loss to FCI due to substandard rice procurement**

1976. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that FCI procured rice milled by private rice millers containing higher percentage of broken, discoloured, damaged dehusked grain and foreign matter as a result of which rice could not be issued to PDS;

(b) if so, whether the matter was inquired into to find out the reasons for accepting beyond rejection level rice stocks from the private rice millers in deviation of

relaxed specifications fixed by Government; and

(c) how much loss has been caused to the corporation on account of the above and what action was taken against the officials responsible for accepting poor quality rice?

### **Prices of edible oils**

1977. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 601, 605 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 2004 and state:

(a) whether there has been rapid increase in the prices of edible oils;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by Government to meet this situation?

### **Protest against wheat import**

1978. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

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

(a) whether Government have received protests from the farmers organisations against the proposed import of five lakh tones of wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the cost involved in the import of wheat in terms of Indian currency; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

**Use of prefix 'National Institute' by private institutes**

1979. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of private management and engineering institutes bear the prefix "National Institute" or "Indian Institutes" making the gullible public believe that such institutes enjoy Government participation or patronage;

(b) whether such practice is a clear violation of the provisions of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1982; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken against such institutes and stop this practice which is otherwise dilating the credibility of internationally reputed Government managed IITs and IIMs?

**Sale of PDS wheat in open market**

†1980. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat and rice allotted under the public distribution system are sold on the black-market price in the open market instead being sold through the public distribution system;

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

(c) whether Government have collected information from each State in this regard;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) whether Government are considering to formulate any policy with regard to prevention of such a countrywide scam; and

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

**Warehousing Development and Regulation Bill**

1981. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to bring before the Parliament the Warehousing Development and Regulation Bill to make the warehouse receipts legally acceptable in all banks and the commodities markets and to provide regulation;

(b) whether the proposed Bill also contains provisions relating to gradation, standardization and other services to the commodities markets;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the other salient features of the proposed Bill?

**Utilisation of CWC godowns**

1982. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that owned capacity of CWC godowns utilization has been declining and the capacity utilization of hire godowns is on the increase;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the under utilization of owned capacity and undertaking hiring of godowns and the infructuous expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure break even point for capacity utilization?

#### **Requirement of edible oils**

†1983. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an assessment of the annual requirement of edible oils in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government will consider to get the work of such an assessment done;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor, alongwith the steps taken by Government to maintain the balance between the demand and the supply of edible oils so that edible oils can be available to common man at the reasonable price and the farmers can get the appropriate price of their mustard and oil seeds?

#### **Complaints against Bata Shoe Company**

1984. SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that Bata Shoe Company is marketing sub-standard shoes and are not attending to consumer complaints; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take to protect the interest of consumers?

#### **Substandard gold articles**

1985. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people in our country are purchasing around 15 per cent of substandard gold articles and losing their hard earned money annually, according to the Bureau of Indian Standards;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken against such unethical business?

#### **Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme to Arunachal Pradesh**

1986. 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 Food Corporation of India was reimbursing transport cost under the Hill Transport Subsidy (HTS) Scheme to Arunachal Pradesh for taking foodgrains from the FCI depots to 13 designated distribution centres to areas which had no road links and only porters were used;

(b) if so, whether the audit reports put this figure to Rs. 193 crores in just two years;

(c) the steps taken to identify the culprits and starting the recovery proceedings; and

(d) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such a fraud?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**SMP for sugarcane**

1987. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to fix Statutory Minimum Price for sugarcane for the remaining 18 sugar factories out of 34 sugar factories;

(b) if so, whether Government would assure of fixing it immediately, as any delay would lead to heavy financial burden to the sugar factories in terms of paying additional heavy interest to the sugarcane cultivators; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Storage capacity in Punjab**

1988. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the existing storage capacity of foodgrains in Punjab, district-wise?

**Fund for consumer awareness**

†1989. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have created a fund of Rs. 100 crores for consumer awareness in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that during 2005-06 three advertising agencies

were selected and entrusted with the responsibility of consumer awareness;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard and the names of those companies; and

(d) the amount allocated to each of them?

**Procurement target**

†1990. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

(a) whether arrangements have been made for the procurement of wheat in different States of the country to achieve the target of procurement;

(b) if so, the quantum of wheat to be procured from each of wheat growing State; and

(c) by when this procurement will be started?

**Extinction of vultures due to bacteria**

†1991. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of birds in all major cities has considerably declined as these cities are turning into concrete jungles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that population of vultures in the country is declining sharply due to a bacteria called 'Hamolytic-e-Koli' and these vultures are on the verge of extinction;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether Government would contemplate any effective steps to save vultures from extinction; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Death of birds**

1992. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:  
SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 300 birds belonging to the Okhla Bird Sanctuary were found floating dead in the River Yamuna recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the dead birds are Shoveller ducks which migrate from Russia and Northern China;

(c) whether Government have done any investigations in this regard;

(d) if so, the action proposed; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such incidence in future?

#### **Air and water pollution**

1993. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of several measures taken by Government to minimise pollution, many cities in India are reported to have high level of air and water pollution;

(b) if so, what are the complete details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to warn the States/UTs for rapid increase in pollution level?

#### **Amendment of Forest Conservation Act**

†1994. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh where large chunk of land is covered by cold desert, cases of allotment of cultivated land (Nautaud) to many eligible and poor people are pending due to enforcement of provisions of Forest Conservation Act forcing them to live in worse conditions;

(b) if so, whether Government would propose to amend the provisions of Forest Conservation Act for the purpose of allowing special concession to the tribal areas, so that, the poor can make their livelihood;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Task force for waste lands**

†1995. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted any task force for producing greeneries in existing ravines of the country;

(b) if so, the details of action plan for providing water and conservation of land there;

(c) whether his Ministry has consulted with the Ministry of Home Affairs to carry out this work; and

(d) the details of existing ravine lands in the country, State-wise?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Death of people due to air pollution**

†1996. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that more than fifty thousand persons lose their lives due to air pollution in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction in this regard?

**Deal with United States**

1997. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have signed a wildlife deal with the US Government; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is due to the fact that Government are under fire on so called erosion of population of tigers?

**Sources of pollution in Ganga**

†1998. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

(a) whether Government have detected the sources polluting the water of river Ganga;

(b) if so, the details regarding the said sources;

(c) the percentage of Ganges waters being polluted by each and every source respectively; and

(d) the amount estimated to be incurred on treatment of this polluted water and making it pure before its amalgamation into the Ganga water?

**Protection of endangered species of animals and birds**

1999. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives are being taken by Government to protect the endangered species of animals and birds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Norms for care of animals in zoological parks**

†2000. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of zoological parks in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government do not have any norms in respect of food and healthcare of animals in major zoological parks;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to conduct any scientific study in respect of food and healthcare of animals;

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(f) the measures taken by Government to improve the norms relating to food and healthcare of the animals?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Funds for fencing the forests**

2001. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any funds have been allocated to various States including Punjab during the last two years and current year to fence the forests; and

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

#### **Closures of sanctuaries in Eastern Ghats**

2002. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suggested to State Government to close some sanctuaries in the Eastern Ghats;

(b) the names of such sanctuaries which have been recommended for closure by Government due to river irrigation projects, etc.;

(c) what steps Government would take to move such wildlife from such affected game sanctuaries in the Eastern Ghats; and

(d) the reasons for not protecting wildlife by Government?

#### **Rehabilitation package for displaced families in Karnataka**

2003. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a package for rehabilitation of 201 families affected due to the formation of Kudremukh National Park in Karnataka has been sent by the Karnataka Government for the Central assistance;

(b) if so, when the proposal was received by Government and the amount of the Central assistance sought; and

(c) the present status of the above rehabilitation package?

#### **Poaching of wildlives**

2004. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tigers, tigresses, cubs, leopards, etc. have died/killed in the country during the last one year particularly at Gir Sanctuary;

(b) if so, the number thereof, State-wise, sanctuary-wise and the reasons for their deaths;

(c) the steps being taken for their protection and safety; and

(d) the present number of tigers, leopards, black panthers in the country today?

#### **Protest by forest dwellers**

2005. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the thousands of tribals and other forest dwellers who gathered in Hoshangabad district in Madhya Pradesh, to protest against their threatened displacement from the Satpura National Park, Bori Wildlife Sanctuary and Panchmarhi Wildlife Sanctuary;

(b) if so, whether Government have caused a probe into their grievances; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to protect their legitimate forest rights?

**Role of soft drink bottling plants in groundwater pollution**

2006. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pollution Control Board has surveyed diverse soft drink bottling plants for their role in groundwater pollution or other types of pollution;

(b) if so, what were the findings of CPCB in 2005-06; and

(c) what steps does the CPCB take to prevent groundwater pollution through chemical seepages, etc.?

**Violation of Forest Act by MCL open cast mining**

2007. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:  
SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a large scale violation of Forest Act by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited open cast mining in the IB Valley areas of Orissa; and

(b) how many cases are being initiated against the MCL for the violation of Forest Act and creation of environmental hazards in the mining areas?

**Construction of Vasant Kunj Shopping Mall**

2008. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 347 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 2005 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Development Authority has given

permission for construction of Vasant Kunj Shopping Mall in Delhi even though the auction purchasers have not obtained necessary clearances from statutory authorities; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating any action against Delhi Development Authority and to stop the construction of Mall?

**Industries posing danger to environment**

2009. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multi crore industries continue to pose a danger to health and environment in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are not taking serious action despite warning by the researchers;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to protect the health of children from ill-effects?

**Wildlife conservation and co-operation between India and US**

2010. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a move for a wildlife conservation and co-operation between India and the USA, before the US President's visit; and

(b) if so, what agreement or understanding has been reached in this regard?



**Death of seagulls in Lakhota lake**

2011. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:  
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that over 500 seagulls died recently in Jamnagar's Lakhota lake in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the lake has now turned into a graveyard for migratory birds;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action Government have taken in this regard?

**Irrigation projects in game sanctuaries**

2012. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to allow different State Governments to build irrigation projects and food the existing game sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the name of sanctuaries where Government have allowed forest and environmental approval which will involve massive flooding of game sanctuaries;

(c) what are the reasons for this benign attitude on the part of Government; and

(d) whether Government have suggested amendments to the existing Wildlife Protection Act to allow flooding of game sanctuaries?

**Ozone depletion**

2013. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

holes of the ozone layer in the atmosphere are growing larger and larger;

(b) how far such holes have increased the temperature (hot) of the earth during the last 5 years;

(c) how far this hot temperature had its adverse effect on earth most particularly on Indian soil; and

(d) the steps expected to be taken by Government to protect the Indian coast in case polar snow (North and South Poles) are melted and increase the sea level of the seas and oceans?

**Death of Golden Langur in Assam**

2014. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is drawn towards the tragic development of serial death of endangered species 'Golden Langur' due to attack of unknown disease in the Assam's forest particularly at Ultapani under Haltugaon forest division;

(b) if so, what are the steps to check the further spread of said disease;

(c) whether Government have carried any examination to know the disease and adopted any measures to save the endangered species; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Forest land in North-Eastern States**

2015. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of forest land in each of the North-Eastern States;

(b) the amount of income derived from this forest land in each State of the North-East; and

(c) the steps Government are going to take for giving the tribal people right to the forest land and forest produces?

#### **Ozone depletion**

2016. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing various international agreements on schemes to reduce ozone depletion;

(b) the details of such plans in implementation;

(c) whether it is a fact that funding is provided internationally for such plans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Loss of green cover in Delhi**

2017. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ridge in Delhi is losing its green cover with heavy traffic flow and illegal constructions as per study;

(b) if so, the salient features of the inspection records available with the Ridge Management Board (RMB) in this regard; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to address this issue?

#### **Litchi based processing industries in Bihar**

†2018. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to promote litchi based processing industry in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Processing facilities in NER**

†2019. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in all the States of North-Eastern Region quality oranges, pine-apples and ginger are produced;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that these items are sold there cheaply because of lack of arrangements for processing thereof;

(c) if so, whether Government are considering any proposal to set up new food processing industries in North-Eastern Region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Wastage of food items**

†2020. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the food items get wasted due to lack of processing facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that condition of the above industry is deteriorating day by day as a result of neglect by Government;

(c) if so, the plan of Government in this regard;

(d) if not, the status of the said industry in our country in comparison to other countries specially China; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) the details of the efforts being made by Government to promote the said food processing industry?

#### **Increase of HIV/AIDS cases**

†2021. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of cases of HIV/AIDS is increasing in the country;

(b) the measures being taken to deal with this situation, to treat and prevent this disease; and

(c) the details of the measures taken by Government for Madhya Pradesh in this regard?

survey with regard to HIV infections in the country during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of the results thereof alongwith the name of the States with high prevalence, moderate prevalence and low prevalence, State-wise;

(c) the physical infrastructure providing services set up in various States under National AIDS Control Programme (NACO);

(d) the number of blood banks modernised by NACO in various States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh to ensure safe blood donation; and

(e) the number of AIDS patients in Andhra Pradesh as on 31st December, 2005, male, female, children and eunuch-wise, separately?

#### **Hepatitis-B and AIDS**

2022. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hepatitis-B is as serious and deadly disease as AIDS, but still it is not getting attention and priority by Government as is given to AIDS;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

#### **HIV infections in the country**

2023. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any

#### **Bird flu medicines**

2024. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Tamiflu" is the drug administered to treat avian influenza;

(b) if so, whether there is required stock of above drug available in all States;

(c) if so, the quantity of stock of above medicine as on today, State-wise and category-wise;

(d) if so, whether above medicine is not safe for children and is having other side effects also;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether above drug is in use in other countries and is recommended/used by the World Health Organisation as on today?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Government Siddha, Unani, etc.,  
dispensaries in the country**

2025. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Central Government run Siddha, Ayurvedic, Unani and Homoeopathic dispensaries/hospitals functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open more dispensaries/hospitals in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**National Drug Regulatory Authority**

2026. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish a National Drug Regulatory Authority to make drug regulations more stringent;

(b) if so, whether the proposed Authority will be set up on the lines of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and

(c) whether there have been any discussions with the US Food and Drug Commissioner in this regard?

**Modernisation of Delhi hospitals**

2027. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that condition of most of the Government hospitals in NCT of Delhi is far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have allocated

sufficient funds for modernisation of hospitals in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) how many new hospitals are likely to be opened before the next Commonwealth Games in 2010?

**Leprosy patients**

2028. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are only about 1,00,000 leprosy patients under treatment, yet many of them are left to fend for themselves and survive with help from charities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Leprosy Eradication Programme is trying to prevent relapse among patients; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Codex Alimentarius Commission on  
food adulteration**

2029. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of recommendations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in the matter of prevention of food adulteration;

(b) whether Government are considering to harmonise the labelling norms concerning packaged food products under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules with those prescribed by the Codex Alimentarius Commission; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the benefits expected to accrue to the consumers by the proposed revision of rules?

**Trader friendly measures to check food adulteration**

2030. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

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

(a) what is the institutional or any other machinery to check food adulteration;

(b) whether Government have any information of such adulteration;

(c) whether Government are in agreement with the recent media reports on food adulteration;

(d) if so, how could such adulteration take place;

(e) whether the accountability has been fixed and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what trader-friendly steps are being taken to firm up the institutional mechanism to check food adulteration without causing unnecessary harassment to traders?

**Lack of staff in CGHS dispensary**

†2031. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ayurvedic dispensaries located in central zone of CGHS lack adequate number of clerks and chowkidars, etc., and as a result thereof, they have not been able to function smoothly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would ensure posting of appropriate number of clerks and other staff in ayurvedic dispensary at North Avenue and ayurvedic hospital at Lodhi Road so that they are able to function smoothly; and

(d) if so, by when?

**American model of health care in Indian mega cities**

2032. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to adopt the US model of health care in Indian mega cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the matter is likely to be finalized?

**Adulterated milk in metros**

†2033. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 25 per cent of the milk being sold in Delhi and other metropolitan cities of the country is adulterated and it contains a preservative called 'thiocyanate' leading to goitre in children;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent such a situation and the results thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Objective of AIIMS**

2034. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences was established with certain objectives, as the premier institute of the country;

(b) if so, whether these objectives are being followed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Polio in Bihar**

†2035. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 64 cases of polio came to Mumbai, light in the country in the year 2005 and out of which 30 were from Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that polio virus spread to Mumbai, Punjab, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Nepal from Bihar in the year 2004; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking for paying special attention to Bihar?

### **Dietary supplements and medical devices under Drugs and Cosmetics Act**

2036. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions to bring dietary supplements and medical devices under

the purview of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, for effective monitoring of their quality and prices; and

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

### **Dengue and other communicable diseases**

†2037. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which had been highly afflicted more with dengue, encephalitis and malaria alongwith the number of persons suffered and died due to these diseases in the year 2005;

(b) the steps taken by Government to prevent the outbreak of the above diseases in future and the details thereof; and

(c) by when the efforts made by Government would start giving results?

### **Scarcity of life saving drugs**

2038. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of Government hospitals do not have even basic life saving drugs which cause great inconvenience to the patients and even leading to casualties;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how do Government propose to tackle this problem so that at least basic life saving drugs are provided to the patients in the case of emergency?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**CGHS beneficiaries in Karnataka**

2039. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beneficiaries of CGHS in Karnataka;

(b) which are the hospitals and diagnostic centres recognised for treatment by Central Government for employees under CGHS in Bangalore;

(c) which are the hospitals proposed to be recognised under the above scheme in Karnataka;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure all prescribed medicines are supplied to the patients on the same day in various CGHS dispensaries in Bangalore; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to discontinue the CGHS?

**Fund allocation for rural health care**

2040. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to allocate Rs. 900 crores for the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of the centre to improve the health care infrastructure in the rural areas in Orissa under the above project?

**Testing of drugs used for new-born babies**

2041. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the

drugs used to treat new-born babies have not been properly tested, even some drugs like morphine, thyrozone and some anti-epileptic drugs are unlicensed for use on children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have issued any instructions to the pharmaceutical companies to test and certify all paediatric medicines; and

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

**Women's access to quality health care**

2042. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:  
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether Government have drawn up some action plan to improve women's access to quality health care services in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details of this action plan so far it relates to Orissa State?

**Fund allocation of AIIMS like hospitals**

†2043. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an announcement was made to upgrade six hospitals of the country to the level of AIIMS by the previous Government;

(b) whether foundation stones were laid for upgradation of these hospitals;

(c) if so, the names of the institutes where these foundation stones were laid and the dates thereof;

(d) the amount that was to be spent on the upgradation of these institutes, separately; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) the progress made so far in this regard?

**Proposal for cancer treatment in Medical College, Bhopal**

†2044. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has forwarded a revised proposal for prevention and treatment of cancer disease in Medical College, Bhopal; and

(b) if so, by when the said proposal would be sanctioned alongwith the details thereof?

**Violation of PNDT Act**

2045. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of violations of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 have been reported to the National Monitoring and Inspection Committee since the Supreme Court Judgement W.P. No. 301/2000; and

(b) how many violations of Act have been subsequently followed up through registration of cases?

**Health camps along the Ganga banks**

2046. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently for the first time, a group of doctors and

youngmen walked along the banks of Ganga for creating health awareness and educating the rural population and conducted health camps;

(b) whether the unique concept was provided with necessary funds in order to make the yatra a grand success;

(c) which are the places/States where health camps were conducted during the yatra; and

(d) whether Government are considering to make it a regular feature?

**MoU with IAVI for AIDS control**

2047. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have entered into a MoU with International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) for accelerating the efforts to develop a vaccine to counter HIV, according to a news report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**New AIDS treatment by German scientists**

2048. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that German scientists have developed a new treatment for HIV, which is useful in targeted, mutated strains of AIDS virus that they become impervious to drugs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they succeeded in blocking the multiplication of HIV-I;

(c) if so, the details of the research; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(d) what is the difference between the conventional therapies and the latest discovery which neutralized the human protein?

**Embryonic stem cell therapy**

2049. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many clinics in the country are conducting embryonic stem cell therapy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the embryonic stem cells for therapeutic use is restricted worldwide; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that ICMR is conducting an enquiry regarding the use of the above in several clinics?

**Human Organs Bank**

2050. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Human Organs Bank for the purpose of transplantation of human organs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government to encourage organ donation;

(d) whether any technology has been imported for the purpose and necessary training given to the doctors in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Rural Health Mission in Jammu and Kashmir**

2051. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of National Rural Health Mission in Jammu and Kashmir State; and

(b) the amount allocated for the programme during the last three years, year-wise?

**Committee to monitor sex ratio in Punjab**

2052. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Committee to inspect and check the declining sex ratio, especially in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Reasons for exempting Kerala from NRHM**

2053. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States in the country which have proposed to launch the "National Rural Health Mission" and the reasons for exempting Kerala from launching such projects; and

(b) whether the Government of Kerala has sought the intervention of Government for implementing the NHRM project in the State; and if so, whether Government would consider to include Kerala in the priority list?

**GDP spent on health**

2054. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 0.9 per cent of GDP of the country is spent on public health;

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to meet public health care requirements; and

(c) whether Government would increase allocation to public health with a view to improve the quality of life of the common man?

**NACO on AIDS**

2055. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a National Council on AIDS to have policy directives and monitor country's AIDS control programme;

(b) the number of times that the Council met since its establishment;

(c) the details of Members of the Council; and

(d) what are the reasons for having representation in the Council only from 7 States?

**Monabao-Khokhrapar rail link**

2056. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when railway link was to be started between Monabao-Khokhrapar on

Rajasthan Sindh border according to the agreement with Pakistan;

(b) the reasons that starting of Thar Express train on this side is being delayed and date of starting this train is being postponed;

(c) whether Pakistan insists to run this train upto Ajmer; and

(d) what is the response of Government of India?

**Staff working at road side stations**

2057. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of staff, working at road side stations;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no accommodation for their (staff) stay rest and cooking on such stations;

(c) if so, by when his Ministry would solve this problem;

(d) whether his Ministry has any plans to solve this problem; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Pending overbridges/underbridges in Uttar Pradesh**

2058. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals pending with the Railways for the construction of overbridges/underbridges on sharing basis received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and local bodies in the State; and

(b) the number of proposals pending for over a year, the reasons for delay and by when they are likely to be cleared?

#### **ATMs at railway stations**

2059. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ATMs of banks working at present at railway stations in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to install more ATMs at railway stations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to publish a list of such stations having ATMs on the Railway's website for general public; and

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

#### **Designer bogies**

2060. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a detailed proposal has been formulated to offer 'designer' bogies for the high-end tourists and some other value added tour packages, including tourist cars, domestic tourist trains, luxury trains, etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of its implementation?

#### **Transfer of vendorship**

2061. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether *vide* letter No. 92-TG-III/600/42 dated 11th October, 1993, Railway Board directed to transfer vendorship of deceased commission vendors to their sons/relatives;

(b) how many applications for transfer of vendorship were pending with Railway/IRTDC as on 11th October, 1993 and 30th November, 2005;

(c) whether all those applications have already been granted; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Modernization of railway stations in Tamil Nadu**

2062. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Southern Railway has taken any steps to modernize various railway stations in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including targets for the last three years and the achievements made thereon?

#### **High speed trains**

2063. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have long term plan to launch high speed trains on major national routes to thwart competition from low fare airlines;

(b) if so, the details and status of implementation thereof;

(c) whether work is in progress on other major railway tracks for introduction of high-speed trains running at 150 km. per hour, after launch of such trains on Delhi-Agra route; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, route-wise?

**Anti-Collision Device**

2064. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have been able to successfully test anti-collision system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the result of this system;
- (d) whether any further improvements are required in this system;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time likely to be taken to install anti-collision system in all the trains and more particularly Express trains?

**Construction of new railway terminals**

†2065. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the approvals granted by his Ministry for construction of new railway terminals in Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa during the last five years;
- (b) the number and names of such terminals for which construction work has actually commenced;
- (c) the reasons for not commencing construction work for remaining terminals; and
- (d) the details of approval granted for construction of railway terminal at Raigarh in Chhattisgarh, commencement of its construction work and year-wise expenditure on the same?

**Threat to stations in Bihar by Maoist**

†2066. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Maoists have threatened to blow up railway stations in Bihar;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that in the threat it has been stated to hand over the safety related work of railways to Railway Police in place of R.P.F.;
- (c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (d) the steps Government have taken to make RPF corruption free?

**Comprehensive Perspective Plan**

2067. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the stage of Comprehensive Perspective Plan for railways envisaged to project the growth and capacity for the next five years;
- (b) whether the existing capacity has been fully utilised;
- (c) if not, whether it can be utilised fully by introducing high speed trains;
- (d) whether it is a fact that over utilization of tracks has occurred in congested and saturated routes by introducing new trains; and
- (e) if so, what are adverse impacts and handicaps arisen on account of such over utilization of tracks and what are the measures and safeguards ensured to mitigate such adverse situations?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### Model stations

†2068. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of those railway stations in Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Bihar and Jharkhand which have been approved to be developed as model stations, during the last five years;

(b) what additional facilities are provided in the model stations;

(c) the basis for declaring any station as a model station; and

(d) the details of action taken for declaring Bilaspur and Raipur stations of Chhattisgarh as model stations?

### Losses due to delay of trains

†2069. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have to bear heavy losses due to delayed running of trains;

(b) the other reasons for delayed running of trains besides natural problems such as fog and agitations; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure timely running of trains?

### Kollam-Virudhunagar gauge conversion project

2070. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary sanctions have been given to the Kollam-Virudhunagar gauge conversion project;

(b) if so, whether the acquisition of land

for the project has been completed and handed over to the Railways;

(c) if so, the status of the work; and

(d) the time by which the project would be completed?

### Accidents due to failure of Railway staff

2071. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2723 given in Rajya Sabha on the 16th December, 2005 and state:

(a) the category-wise number of employees responsible for accidents due to failure of Railway staff during 2001-02 to 2005-06;

(b) the number of loco running staff during 2000-01 to 2004-05, year-wise; and

(c) the loco running staff and train ratio as on 31st March, 1990 and 31st March, 2005?

### Ongoing doubling works in Kerala

2072. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing railway line doubling works in the State of Kerala;

(b) whether there is any time-frame set for the completion of these works particularly that of the Kayamkulam-Ernakulam-Kottayam-Alapuzha lines;

(c) whether the progress of work is hampered by the lack of adequate funds; and

(d) if so, the estimated cost of each of the doubling work and also the details of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

funds, so far, released towards the works, sector-wise?

**Ongoing railway projects in Punjab**

2073. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of ongoing railway projects in Punjab and the amount spent, so far, on each project;

(b) the amount earmarked for each of the projects during 2005-06; and

(c) the progress of each ongoing project, as on date?

**Construction/reconstruction/  
strengthening of bridges in Bihar**

2074. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for construction/reconstruction/strengthening of railway bridges in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of places where new bridges are to be constructed and the bridges identified for reconstruction/strengthening in Bihar alongwith the funds allocated for this purpose during the year 2005-06; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Railway projects**

2075. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new, ongoing, pending rail lines, gauge conversion, doubling, electrification projects which have been approved by Government, State-wise; and

(b) if so, the present status of each project with targeted date for completion alongwith the financial allocation made for the said purpose during the year 2005-06, project-wise?

**Subsidised travel in lower class and  
sub-urban sectors**

2076. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has called for an explicit subsidy in the budget to subsidise travel in lower classes and sub-urban sectors instead of the existing system of upper class fares cross subsidise the lower class fares;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has also called for setting up of an independent Rail Tariff Regulator to make pricing of railway services more professional and transparent; and

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

**Stoppage of Saraighat Express in  
Assam**

2077. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no stop of Saraighat Express in the major stations of Assam except Guwahati, whereas it has several stops in almost all the major stations of West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any measures to provide stoppage in major stations like New Bongaigaon in Assam; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

### Setting up of budget hotels

2078. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up budget hotels adjoining to key railway stations for the lodging-cum-boarding facilities to rail passengers in the country particularly in Maharashtra State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also decided to give railway land to the private parties for making budget hotels on lease basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### Redevelopment plan for New Delhi station

†2079. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a redevelopment plan was formulated for New Delhi railway station in view to control the recurrence of incidents took place thereat in past few years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this station is yet to be developed whereas lakhs of people visit there on daily basis;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a negligence;

(d) if not, the details thereof and by when the above redevelopment plan is likely to be completed;

(e) whether Government are considering to equip the above station with facilities of international level; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

### Construction of overbridge at Dumraon

†2080. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers have to cross rail tracks for arriving at platform at Dumraon railway station on Mughalsarai-Patna section due to damage to overbridge thereat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that construction material for the said overbridge is lying there for over a year and not being utilised;

(c) if so, the reasons for such delay; and

(d) the action being taken to construct the said bridge at the earliest?

### Sickness of gang staff

2081. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on an average 25 per cent of "D" category permanent way gang staff, remain on sick lists with man-days lost on this account remain unrecouped;

(b) if so, whether this affects track maintenance and thus the rail safety;

(c) whether his Ministry would take any steps to improve the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### Allocation for Orissa in Rail Budget 2006-07

2082. SHRI B.J. PANDA:  
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Minister of Orissa has requested for allocation of Rs. 800 crores for the State in Rail Budget 2006-07 and also for introduction of new trains in the State;

(b) whether in view of rapid industrialization of the State, there is an urgent need to complete all the ongoing projects to meet the needs of both freight and passenger traffic; and

(c) if so, the time-frame within the above proposals are agreed to and the State administration is apprised of the position?

#### **Resources for Railways**

2083. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the need of resources for Railways and availability of resources;

(b) what is the strategy available for Railways to generate internal resources and the innovative areas for raising additional revenue; and

(c) what are the special efforts undertaken to meet passenger amenities despite lack of funds?

#### **Introduction of superfast and new trains**

2084. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of superfast trains and new trains introduced during the period 1995-2005, year-wise;

(b) the number of staff as on 1st January, 1995 and 31st December, 2005, category-wise; and

(c) the number of locomotives as on 1st January, 1995 and 31st December, 2005?

#### **Operation of container freight trains by private operators**

2085. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent decision of his Ministry to 'throw open' the operation of container freight trains to private operators will result in substantial reduction in freight tariffs;

(b) if so, whether it would not adversely affect the working of Government Container Corporation and its operation would become loss making; and

(c) whether the additional investment of Rs. 2500 crores in creating more line capacity for the heavy traffic routes would be able to recover the invested amount in a foreseeable future?

#### **Electrification of railway routes in South Central Railway**

2086. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given approval for electrification of any railway routes especially in the South Central Railway Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the specific reasons for rejecting the approvals in each case?

#### **KIOCL tie-up with NMDC and SAIL**

2087. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL) has opened an office in Bhubaneswar (Orissa);



- (b) if so, the status of this office;
- (c) whether there is a proposal for a tie-up of KIOCL with NMDC and SAIL; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

#### **Investment in R&D sector**

2088. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS*  
BAL APTE:  
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the investment made in public sector regarding research and development (R&D) works on steel during the last two years and the results thereof;
- (b) whether Government have taken any decision to promote more investments on R&D works for improvement in quality of steel, keeping in view of its quality and economic prices in the world;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the present position of the ongoing R&D projects and the projects which are lying under consideration of Government?

#### **Increasing SAIL's distribution network**

2089. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:  
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have asked

SAIL to increase its distribution network to make the steel available in smaller towns;

- (b) if so, the efforts made in this regard; and

(c) how this proposal is going to help SAIL to improve its performance in steel sector?

#### **Profit margin of SAIL**

†2090. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the dividend of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. has declined by 54.7 per cent during the period from April to December in 2005-06 in comparison to the same period of the last year;
- (b) if not, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the reason of decline in the dividend is the rise in price of coal;
- (d) if not, the other reasons therefor; and
- (e) the total production during the abovesaid period and the extent to which this production is less or more in comparison to that of last year?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 4th March, 2006*  
*Phalguna 13, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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