

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, the August 10, 2005/Sravana 19, 1927 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Commerce and Industry; Defence; Home Affairs;
Non-Conventional Energy Sources; Power; Rural Development;
Textiles)**

Total number of questions — 155

Price of Indian coffee

1729. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of Indian coffee has doubled during the last 6 to 8 months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the high international prices give a chance for the Indian coffee industry to boost its export;

(d) if so, the likely export of coffee to different countries during the current year; and

(e) the income likely to be generated from this?

Effect of lifting quantitative ban on import of consumer commodities

†1730. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to lift the quantitative ban

imposed on the import of consumer commodities;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that by the said action domestic production of consumer commodities will get a setback; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken by Government for the development of the domestic industry?

Trade negotiations under Doha Round in Paris

1731. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sent any team to attend the special session of Ministerial Council Meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on "Trade Negotiations under the Doha Round in Paris" recently;

(b) if so, the composition of the team thereof;

(c) the details of the meetings held in this regard;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (d) the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the details of the expenditure incurred for the said visit?

Special Coffee Term Loan for Coffee growers of Karnataka

1732. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) how many Coffee growers in Karnataka have taken the benefit under Special Coffee Term Loan;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that now the Coffee growers have been asked to repay three years interest;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) since the Coffee growers in Karnataka are in great distress whether there is any representation from the Karnataka Government to extend the period for repayment of interest under this scheme upto March, 2006?

Fall in Shrimp export after Tsunami

1733. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether export of Shrimps has declined considerably, especially after Tsunami disaster; and
- (b) if so, what action has been taken to increase the export of Shrimp?

Promotion of export of leather

1734. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have identified the leather industry as a

thrust sector in view of significant export growth prospects and enormous employment potential particularly in semi-urban and rural areas;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to capture at least five per cent of World Trade in leather within the next five years; and

- (c) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard?

Floriculture production and export

1735. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to develop floriculture production and export them from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by Government for enhancing production and export of flowers from Tamil Nadu?

Restoration of free access to Indian goods by US

1736. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

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

- (a) whether US has restored free access to goods from India, citing improved intellectual property rights;
- (b) if so, whether according to US, India has made progress in providing an effective protection of intellectual property rights;
- (c) if so, what is the full list of the duty free items or the value of access that has been made available to Indian goods;

(d) whether Indian exports of about \$1 billion received duty free access or reduced duty benefits for entry to US market under the programme till 1990-92; and

(e) if so, whether Indo-US trade has grown significantly then and if so, to what extent this decision of US will further improve US-Indo trade?

Indo-Pak bilateral trade

1737. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Pakistan has decided to allow duty free import of five commodities from India through the land route in a bid to increase bilateral trade with India;

(b) if so, to what extent this has been welcomed by the Union Government;

(c) whether Union Government has also urged Pakistan to restore Most Favoured Nation status to India;

(d) whether Pakistan has also already indicated to India that it will allow duty free import of 768 commodities from India;

(e) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been communicated to India; and

(f) if not, what are the main reasons for delay?

Effect of CECA with Singapore on Indian Private Banks

1738. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently

approved Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) with Singapore has provisions that confer exclusive privileges to banks based out of Singapore, including option of merging with or acquiring Indian private Banks;

(b) if so, whether the said provision can have far-reaching, negative consequences for the Indian banking industry; and

(c) whether Government will make suitable alterations to the provisions of CECA to protect interests of Indian private banks?

Problems of pepper farmers in Kerala

1739. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pepper farmers of Kerala have been facing a lot of problems forcing some of them to commit suicide;

(b) if so, the number of farmers who have ended their lives;

(c) the reasons for taking such a drastic steps;

(d) whether it is a fact that import of low quality pepper from neighbouring countries has resulted in drastic fall in the prices of pepper, whereas the pepper produced in India is of the best quality;

(e) whether the Central Government plan to take steps to protect the pepper growers of Kerala; and

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

**Transport route for exports from
India to China**

†1740. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that transport
route would be required for exports from
India to China *via* Nepal;

(b) if so, whether Government held
negotiations with Nepal in this regard;

(c) if so, when this negotiation was held;
and

(d) the route in Nepal for the said
purpose likely to be permitted by Nepal?

**Non-availability of data regarding
export of handloom products**

1741. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will
the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that separate
export data for the export of handloom
products is not available from the year
2003-2004 due to the absence of separate
ITC (HS) codes for them;

(b) if so, the reason for removal of
separate ITC codes for the handloom
products; and

(c) what is the view of the handloom
sector on this?

Problems of power loom owners

1742. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased
to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

power loom owners are facing many
problems in the country specially in Tamil
Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any
proposal/scheme to solve the problems of
power loom owners in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Decline in export of oil meals

1743. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the
Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of oil meals declined
by 34 per cent in the first quarter;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to correct the
situation?

**Setting up of nine industrial
estates**

1744. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the
Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal
has been formulated to set up nine
industrial estates, with an investment of
Rs. 1500 crores, in the eastern States of the
country, to promote industrial activity in
the region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including
State-wise locations identified for setting
up the industrial estates and the pattern of
funding evolved therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Assistance to coir producing States

1745. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

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

(a) whether Central assistance is granted to coir producing States for infrastructure upgradation;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with assistance released under the scheme to various States during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government of Karnataka has sought financial assistance for development of Channapatna Coir Cluster covering Bangalore, Mandya, Mysore and Chamarajanagar districts; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the Centre's reaction thereto?

Dispute regarding DEPB scheme with income tax department

1746. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) for how many years has DEPB scheme been in operation;

(b) what was the intention of introducing this DEPB scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that some disputes have recently arisen on this scheme with the income tax department;

(d) what steps Government are taking to ensure that exporters are not denied their rightful dues under the DEPB scheme; and

(e) what exactly is being done to clarify doubts and problems with regard to the

views of the income tax department on the DEPB scheme?

Steps to revive tea industry

1747. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in contrast to rise in world tea production elsewhere, especially Turkey and China, India's production of its traditional plantation crop has declined;

(b) whether this decline in output is attributed to drought like conditions in Southern region and the depression stalking tea industry in Assam;

(c) whether on the export front, India has been relegated to a low ranking, far behind Kenya, Sri Lanka and China; and

(d) what steps are being envisaged to revive the tea industry in India?

Import-export policy on food items

1748. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present import-export policy on food items;

(b) whether the Indian farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce due to excessive import of food items; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

Concessions given to Uttaranchal by DIPP

†1749. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) the details of the concessions given by Department of Industrial Policy and promotion to the newly created State of Uttaranchal on 7th January, 2003 and afterwards;

(b) the reasons for providing these facilities to Uttaranchal;

(c) the points relevant to Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand out of the above reasons; and

(d) whether the facilities provided to Uttaranchal will be given for Chhattisgarh also, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Proposal of USA and European countries regarding agricultural products of India

†1750. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER
SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that USA and European countries have put a proposal before India that if should make its market free for import of agricultural-products and reduce the taxes on imports so that they could reduce subsidy on agricultural-products in their country;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the import duty with regard to USA imports is already less in India; and

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

Forex from export of services

†1751. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that huge foreign exchange is being earned by the export of services from India;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned from this source in the years, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) the areas mainly with which the export of services from the country has been associated?

Achievements of CDGI

1752. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad was established with the assistance of UNDP;

(b) whether the Centre has been able to provide upgraded technologies to the industry to manufacture world class glass wares;

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

(d) the details of important work done by the Centre during the last three years?

Visit of Minister for FDI in infrastructures

1753. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI:

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether he visited Australia and other European countries to invite FDI in different sectors of economy especially in the infrastructure sector; and

(b) if so, the success with respect to different countries visited by him?

Bio-piracy of traditional Indian medicines

1754. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of bio-piracy like that of grant of patent by European Patent Office to the New York based MNC WR Grace on the use of "Neem as Fungicide" has been detected in last two decades; and

(b) what is the status of litigations on the grant of Patents on wound-healing properties of 'Haldi' or anti-diabetic property of 'Karela', 'Jamun' and 'Brinjal' which are examples of blatant bio-piracy of Indian T-K that have generated considerable hue and cry?

Growth rate of infrastructure

†1755. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of six core sectors like crude petroleum, petroleum refinery products, electricity, cement and finished steel etc. progress was low in five sectors in April, 2005 as against April, 2004 due to which the growth rate of infrastructure was 7 per cent as against 10.5 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to maintain high growth rate?

Diversification of trade between India and China

1756. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any medium term plans to diversify the Trade Basket between India and China;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has studied the issue of diversifying the trade pattern between India and China;

(c) if so, what are the recommendations or plans of Government to diversify and expand the trade with China;

(d) to what extent does Government feel that Indian industry should set up production bases in China to increase business; and

(e) the details of targets set to expand trade with China by 2010 to reach US dollars 20 billion a year?

Indo-Myanmar trade

1757. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

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

(a) with improved relations with the Government of Myanmar, whether Government of India is thinking of enlarging bilateral trade relations due to community of interest between Myanmar and our North-Eastern States economy;

(b) if so, how Government proposes to do the same as such trade ties will give fillip to the economy of North-Eastern States; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) what is the present status of bilateral trade, in monetary terms of traditional items?

Effect of import of used tyres

1758. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether imported used tyres pose not only risks to safety but also constitute an environmental hazard;

(b) whether Government would consider ban on import of used tyres alongwith a correction of the import duty structure to prevent dumping of tyres; and

(c) whether forty countries, with improved road/highway infrastructure have banned import of used tyres and if so, whether Government would consider the same?

Economic Co-operation Pact between India and Hungary

1759. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Economic Co-operation Pact has recently been signed between India and Hungary in Budapest;

(b) if so, the term of the agreement;

(c) the exports and imports trade between the two countries during 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(d) how far the same are likely to increase as a result of the new agreement?

Indo-Bangladesh Border Trade Centre

1760. SHRI LALHMING LIANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is contemplating to set up Indo-Bangladesh Border Trade Centre at Habung village in the State of Mizoram;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

Establishment of warehousing zones

1761. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have proposed to set up six free trade and warehousing zones in the country at a cost of Rs. 100 crore each;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) will the Government set up one more warehouse at Madurai, in view of the fact that it is the business hub of Southern Tamil Nadu?

Export of finished goods

1762. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of India's exports of raw materials and finished/manufactured goods;

(b) whether the country's export is predominantly raw materials only;

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

(d) whether any specific steps were taken/proposed to be taken to encourage export of manufactured/finished goods rather than raw materials; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved/proposed to be achieved thereon?

Regional integration among Asian countries

1763. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

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

(a) to what extent India has succeeded in advocating Trade Block for Asia on the lines of EU for the prosperity and development of the Asian region; and

(b) how India, China and other major Asian countries are striving for regional integration so as to compete with EU and others in the world?

Performance of manufacturing sector

1764. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that our manufacturing sector is showing steady signs of recovery and growth;

(b) if so, what is the performance of this sector during 2004-05; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to give a boost to this sector to generate additional employment opportunities and improve the economy of the respective regions?

Border trade through North Eastern region

1765. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that poor infrastructure has hit North East trade;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to improve the infrastructure and to improve border trade through North Eastern region; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Import of gold and silver

1766. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry proposes to allow import of gold and silver directly by individual and small jewellers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it will be permitted?

Negotiations for opening up of global farm goods market

1767. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations to open up the global farm goods market further, are not progressing satisfactorily and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether developed countries are primarily responsible for large distortions and protectiveness in the agricultural sector and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to see that defensive concerns of developing countries in agriculture are addressed?

World Bank Report Regarding investment in India

1768. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent World Bank Report which says India fares very badly on the investment;

(b) if so, what are the comments of Government on this;

(c) whether it is also a fact that compared to most other countries, including those in South Asia, the time for entry, exit and contract enforcement are much higher in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

Increasing external demand for mango, grapes and onions

†1769. SHRMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that demand of Indian mango, grapes and specially onion is increasing for the last few years and being exported in large quantity;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from where demand is increasing; and

(c) the total export made during the last three years and the export being estimated for the coming three years?

Livelihood to affected persons of Project Sea Bird

1770. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has requested to provide 800 posts in project Sea Bird to the displaced citizens besides providing them with soft loans to purchase live stock etc.; and

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

Reclamation of land given to Sea Bird Project

1771. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sea Bird Naval Authorities has been handed over 17 acres of port land by the State Government of Karnataka long ago on the assurance that 17 acres of land will be reclaimed by the Sea Bird Naval Authorities which will be handed over to the Port Department of Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the 17 acres of land has been reclaimed as assured;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by when this 17 acres land will be reclaimed and handed over to the Port Department of State Government of Karnataka?

Joint naval exercise with US, French and Russian Navy

1772. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Navy is likely to take part in landmark exercises with nuclear powered submarines and aircraft carriers belonging to the US, French and Russian Navies over the next three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that this is the first time that Navy will be training with the US and the French fleets?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Defence purchase during Kargil referred to CBI

1773. SHRIDATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have referred certain Kargil cases regarding defence purchases to the CBI for investigation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time limit has been set for CBI to submit its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Defence protocol between India and China

1774. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and China have signed a protocol to improve defence ties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under the said protocol Defence personnel can visit military institutions of both the countries;

(d) if so, whether the Chinese Army Chief visited many Indian military institutions; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Infiltration in Gurej Glacier

†1775. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale infiltration has

taken place in Gurej Glacier and other areas of Jammu and Kashmir; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons of the failure for preventing infiltration; and

(c) what are the effective steps being taken by Government?

Review of arms and ammunition purchased

1776. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of arms and ammunition purchased from overseas suppliers during the last three years, with details of the suppliers and revenue implications in respect of each supply;

(b) whether Government have decided to review the purchases made during the last three years and has cancelled purchase orders in respect of certain arms suppliers; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor?

Defence deal by India and US

1777. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and US set to sign landmark Defence deals which include guarding of sea lanes in this region;

(b) whether the issue of supplying F-18s to India came up for discussion during his recent visit to US;

(c) if so, what is the outcome of the meeting with regard to supply of F-18s to India; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) what are the detailed agreements that India and US entered into during Prime Minister's visit to US?

Exemption of defence vehicles from toll tax

1778. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vehicles of Defence departments are exempt under the India Tolls (Army and Airforce) Act, 1901 from toll taxes;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the toll collection agency on the Delhi-Noida (NCR) flyway has been collecting tolls from the Defence vehicles despite this exemption;

(c) the reasons for allowing the toll collectors to ignore the law of the land;

(d) the details of other toll bridges/roads where Defence vehicles are made to pay tolls; and

(e) what actions are contemplated, if any, in order to prevent toll collection from Defence vehicles passing through Delhi-Noida flyway?

Satellite based reconnaissance and surveillance system

1779. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the indigenous satellite-based reconnaissance and surveillance system, a Rs. 1050 crore joint ISRO-DRDO project to augment surveillance over the country's airspace, is running behind schedule; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) by when it is now likely to be completed?

Leucoderma drug developed by DARL

†1780. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subordinate office of the Ministry, DARL (Defence Agro Research Laboratory) Pithauragarh, Uttaranchal has developed a medicine for Leucoderma and its production and sale rights have been handed over to a private company;

(b) if so, the name of that private company and whether that company has started its production; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the arrangements made for the availability of the said medicine to the patients who were getting this medicine from DARL?

Defence deal by M/s Denel

1781. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the news reports appearing the South African newspapers relating to the payment of commission by Denel to British Company Varas Associates for procuring confidential documents for a sale of Anti-Material Rifle to India;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether temporary freeze on the above deal has since been lifted and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Lifting of ban by Switzerland on export of military material

1782. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Switzerland lifted ban on the export of military material to India which was imposed in 1998 following Pokhran tests;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Swiss State Secretariat of Economic Affairs also approved export applications, which have been pending for long, worth 300 million Swiss Francs to India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Militant activities in J&K

1783. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in militant activities in the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the last few months;

(b) if so, what measures Government has taken;

(c) whether Government has raised the issue with the Government of Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Requirement of submarines

1784. DR. VIJAY MALLYA :
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present requirement of submarines to effectively defend the country's borders and how many the Navy have at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number

of them are due for retirement and no decision has yet been taken to replace them; and

(c) what action the Ministry propose to take in this regard in view of the time lag involved in manufacture/procurement of submarines?

Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA)

1785. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Armed Forces are not in favour of diluting the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), which provides immunity to security forces during anti-insurgency operations;

(b) if so, have the recent unfortunate happenings in North-East been taken into consideration, alleging its wide-spread abuse by the security forces by the National Human Rights Commission and similar other Bodies; and

(c) since 1958 when AFSPA was promulgated how many cases of its abuse/misuse have come to notice of Government and whether any security personnel have been punished therefor?

Establishing chemical plants in Bihar by Israel

1786. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel has been given contracts to establish 5 chemical plants in Bihar to manufacture explosives if so, the details thereof;

(b) what other agreements have been signed with Israel to supply military hardware and ammunition in the last 3 years; and

(c) what is the total worth of these defence agreements signed with Israel?

**Requirement of lower levels
surveillance radars**

1787. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IAF has only one-third of its requirements in respect of lower level surveillance Radars;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that it has not been allowed to procure the requisite number of Radars; and

(c) by when these requirements are likely to be met?

**US request for posting of defence
officials**

1788. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had received a suggestion from the United States of America to post Indian defence officers at two of its global military commands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had agreed to the proposal of US in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Growing contacts between armed
forces of India and China**

1789. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China are increasing contacts between armed forces of two countries;

(b) if so, whether Chinese General's visit has proved successful in clearing some of the doubts that has been there for growth and improvement of border and other talks;

(c) to what extent both armed forces have agreed to jointly enter at various levels;

(d) whether 50 member team of Indian Army officials has also visited small Chinese town to attend China's National Day; and

(e) if so, to what extent both armed forces are together to help each other in permitting defence ties and also defence needs to both countries?

Weapons from Israel

1790. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israeli 5.56 Model Tava Assault Rifles are being acquired for the Indian Army Special Forces as part of \$ 15 million deal for close encounter weapons;

(b) if so, the likely time involved in their acquisition and use by these Forces; and

(c) whether these weapons will be utilized in countering terrorism in the country?

**Shortage of men, materials and
vessels in the Coast Guard**

1791. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a significant shortage of men, materials and vessels in the Coast Guard, in India;

(b) if so, whether Government would assure of providing enough men, material and vessels expeditiously to coast guard to

face increased challenges to internal security posed by the increasing use of sea-lanes for terrorists movements, gun-running and narcotics smuggling;

(c) whether Government would implement measures in introducing any advanced technology including modern surveillance system to make the Coast Guard function effectively and efficiently;

(d) if so, details of measures proposed to be taken; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Jangi Inam

1792. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of bravery award known as Jangi Inam given to the soldiers still continues;

(b) if so, the amount given per month as the bravery award;

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase the amount given to the dependents of soldiers who took part in first and second World Wars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

One rank one pension for ex-servicemen

†1793. SHRISURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is extreme anomaly in the pensions of officers and employees of lower level ex-servicemen;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that ex-servicemen have been demanding constantly to implement the principle of "one rank one pension" to eliminate the anomaly and

to bring equality in the pension;

(c) since when Government propose to make effective the principle of "one rank one pension"; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Indian troops in foreign peace keeping force

1794. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) in how many countries the Indian Defence Troops are participating as "Peace Keeping Force";

(b) the number of the defence staff (Commissioned/non-commissioned rank) deputed abroad in these operations; and

(c) how much money the Government of India has to spend on it?

Appointment of head of IDSA

1795. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) is headless for a year or so; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not appointing its head for such a long period?

Rape of women in moving cars

1796. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a young woman was gangraped in a moving car in Delhi on 20th July, 2005;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether about three months back a young woman was also gangraped in the Dhaula Kuan area in the same manner; and

(d) if so, the progress so far made in the investigations in these incidents of rape?

Crimes against North-Eastern Students/people in Delhi

1797. SHRIMATISYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any stern action to tackle increasing crime against women from North East Region in the Capital as three or four cases in connection with crime against Northeast girls, have been reported recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is demand for a special cell in Delhi Police exclusively for the protection of North Eastern students/people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Activities of Babbar Khalsa

†1798. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last few months the activity of a terrorist outfit named Babbar Khalsa have increased in many parts of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several dreaded terrorists with human bombs have been arrested during the last two months in some parts of Delhi and Punjab;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ISI is at the roots of these destructive tendencies of the Babbar Khalsa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Delay in arresting culprits due to jurisdiction dispute

†1799. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to jurisdiction related disputes as well as delays caused on this count, the police is unable to arrest the culprits as they get sufficient time to escape after committing the crime;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to check the delay caused in determining the jurisdiction so that Police do not face problems in quick arrest of culprits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Security check arrangements at major airports

1800. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the security check arrangements in the major airports are inadequate and are time consuming thereby causing lot of inconveniences to the passengers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to slow security check system, a large number of flights are delayed at major airports in our country; and

(c) if so, whether Government are contemplating to streamline the procedure to make it convenient for the passengers?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Deterioration in NDMC run schools

1801. SHRI THENNALA G.
BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:
DR. M.A.M.
RAMASWAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Navyug Schools in NDMC area were opened with the aim of imparting quality education to students of NDMC area;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that initially these schools gave good performance;

(c) whether it is also a fact that quality of education in these schools has deteriorated after formation of Navyug Schools Educational Society;

(d) if so, the rationale behind setting up this society;

(e) whether there is shortage of teachers in these schools which is the main reason for bad performance of these schools; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to improve the performance of these schools?

Beefing up security of Karnataka Legislative Assembly

1802. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed Karnataka Government to beef up security in the Vidhana Soudha as it was included in the list of possible terrorist targets; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

Infiltration of terrorists in Delhi

†1803. SHRI MANGANI LAL
MANDAL:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the terrorists killed by the security forces in Ayodhya were living in Kishangarh alongwith other localities of Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that lot of ISI agents and terrorists were arrested in Delhi and Noida region during last few months;

(c) if so, whether Government are finding security lapse since there is a large scale infiltration of terrorists into the capital city of Delhi; and

(d) what specific measures Government are taking to stop the entry of terrorists in Delhi and other surroundings areas?

Escalation infiltration of Armed militants

1804. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that infiltration of armed militants has escalated in recent weeks; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Security Forces to check cross border infiltration?

Recovery of explosive materials

†1805. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantum of explosive materials have been recovered recently from many States of the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

Village occupied by Nepal

1806. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Bihar village on Indo-Nepal border is occupied by Nepal where even a police post of that country has been setup;

- (b) if so, the details in this regard, indicating as to when the matter was reported by the local officials to the State Government; and

- (c) the action proposed to be taken to get the village transferred back to Bihar?

Training camp for Nepalese Maoists

1807. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers are running a training camp for Nepalese Maoists-Women, boys and girls to train them as suicide bombers in Narkatiaganj and Ghorasahan District in Bihar, near Nepal border;

- (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

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

Eviction of tribals from Assam

1808. SHRINABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of

the fact that the police and forest officials of Assam Government have been resorting to unprovoked eviction drive on innocent tribal people of Arunachal Pradesh living in border areas from time to time leading to explosive situations;

- (b) whether Government would recognize the Assam-Arunachal boundary dispute a national issue; and

- (c) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to resolve this vexed problem?

Spread of naxalism

1809. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that Naxalism has spread from one village in West Bengal to 7000 villages and now control 19 per cent of India's forest areas;

- (b) if so, whether Government have ever examined the main reasons for the spread of this movement which had adversely affected more than 300 million people by Naxal-related violence and if so, the details thereof; and

- (c) what are the details of steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

Letters written by MPs to NDMC officers

1810. SHRIMATI KAMLA
MANHAR:
SHRI DHARAM PAL
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that letters written by the MPs and the Ministers to the

Chairperson and Secretary of N.D.M.C. are neither responded with a reply nor even acknowledged;

(b) what are the rules in this regard and whether Government would direct these officers to at least show courtesy and reply to their letters; and

(c) the number of letters received by these officers from the MPs and Ministers during the period from 1st June, 2004 to 31st May, 2005 and whether they were adequately replied to and if not, the reasons therefore?

Illicit drug trade in Punjab

1811. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that annual revenue from illicit drug trade in Punjab has been running into crores of rupees for the last several years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that seizures made by security forces including Punjab Police and Narcotics Control Bureau represent only a miniscule of the quantum of illicit trade whose volume in terms of money is double the size of official budget of Punjab State; and

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

Separate intelligence machinery for North-Eastern States

†1812. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to constitute a separate intelligence machinery for the North-Eastern States keeping in view the continuing terrorist and separatist activities in these States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the above mentioned decision will come into effect?

Arms recovered from cargo container

1813. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mumbai Police recovered in May, 2005, a large quantity of arms and ammunition from a cargo container cleared from the Jawahar Port in Mumbai both by the port and customs authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, whether the involvement of the port/customs staff has been established and if so, the details thereof and the action taken against those found involved therein?

Encounter of Naxalites

1814. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three IPS officers have been found guilty of falsifying fact about the encounter of three top Naxalite Leaders to secure national gallantry awards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what action has been taken against these officers?

Effective Management of Indo-Nepal Border

†1815. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have prepared any action-plan for effective management of Indo-Nepal border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have sent any proposal of an action plan in this regard for the approval of Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken thereon?

Escaping of mastermind of Ayodhya attack

1816. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations into the Ayodhya Shrine attempted attack case reveal that the mastermind of the fidayeens, the Commander of Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has now crossed over to Pakistan;

(b) whether this reported escape of the king-pin of the attack to a safer place across the border is likely to hamper further investigations;

(c) whether the fidayeens had visited Akbarpur considered a safe haven because of well entrenched network of ISI-Lashkar-e-Tayyeba operating from there for sometime; and

(d) what is the present status of investigations?

Involvement of SIMI in Ayodhya attack

†1817. SHRI BALAVANTALIASBAL APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any evidence of involvement of the banned outfit SIMI in Ayodhya bomb attack;

(b) if so, the action being taken against this organization; and

(c) the details regarding number of SIMI activists arrested and the quantum of property seized till now?

Negotiations on tariff concessions

1818. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is undertaking negotiations with Bangladesh and Pakistan on exchange of tariff concessions in the run-up to the SAFTA agreement for SAARC Countries that is scheduled to come into operation from January, 2006;

(b) if so, what will be the status of the existing bilateral trade freebies that India has with Nepal and Bhutan;

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian Government officials attended a meeting in Kathmandu from July 20 to 22 for negotiations on the Proposed SAFTA with officials from other SAARC Countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Overlapping in function of private security agencies and police

1819. SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH
BAGRODIA:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA
MURTHY:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been instances of overlap of function between private security personnel and the police;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that private multi-national security agencies having branches in India pose serious security implications; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Talks with NSCN leaders

†1820. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NSCN leaders visited India for holding talks on an invitation from the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, the outcomes of the talks and the demands raised by them;

(c) whether the NSCN leaders made a point of holding talks in other country only in future; and

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

Drug peddling involving neighbours

1821. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been rapid increase in the illegal drug peddling involving the neighbouring countries in the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps being taken by Government to curb the menace?

Study by DP regarding rape cases in Delhi

1822. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi

Police had conducted a study in rape cases in Delhi;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) what is the total number of cases registered during 2004-05 and in how many cases action was taken against the accused; and

(d) what is the action plan of the Delhi Police and other NGOs to control this menace?

Fencing at borders

†1823. SHRI PYARELAL
KHANDELWAL:
DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH
LODHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work pertaining to fencing of the borders of the country has not been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total length of fencing in kilometers erected at border till May, 2005; and

(d) by when fencing is likely to be completed in the remaining parts of the borders?

Security for Amarnath Yatra

1824. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new initiative has been taken by Government to ensure the security of thousands of Pilgrims to Amarnath Yatra in view of the increased terrorist threat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Non-completion of projects by NDMC

1825. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NDMC has failed in completing the important projects or even implementing important Budget proposals for the year 2004-05 in North Avenue, South Avenue, Parliament Street, Connaught Place and other VVIP areas;

(b) if so, the names of the projects contained in the Budget proposals of 2004-05 which have not been implemented so far and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by what time the pending projects like the multi level parking lots, Modern Flower Market, New Delhi City Centre Phase-II are likely to be completed and the reasons for the delay in completion in each case?

Proposal to decongest Chandigarh

1826. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop some near by villages around Chandigarh to decongest the Union Territory; and

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been chalked out in this regard?

Joint task force to tackle Naxalites

1827. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations made by the Co-ordination Committee of the 13

Naxalite-affected States held on 17th June, 2005 at Hyderabad;

(b) whether the 13 Naxalite-affected States have arrived at a consensus to ban Naxalite organizations;

(c) whether it is a fact that Joint-Task force to tackle Naxalites has been formed; and

(d) whether Karnataka also figure among them?

Encroachment of Indian land by Nepal

†1828. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
SHRI JANARDAN
DWIVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nepal has encroached upon 10 thousand acres of land of Susta area of Bihar and also killed several natives of Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Nepal has been encroaching continuously in this area;

(c) whether it is also a fact that by illegal cutting of jungles and mining Nepal has diverted the erosion of the Gandak river towards India; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to take the Indian land back from Nepal and get compensation for the natives of Bihar who have been killed?

Use of SRE for other purposes in J&K

1829. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

is making available Rs. 521 crore to Jammu and Kashmir Government every year for Security Related Expenditure (SRE) for combating militancy, but not all of it is used to tackle fiyadeens or extirpate the roots of insurgency in the State;

(b) whether it is a fact that the money allotted for SRE is being used for other purposes;

(c) if so, whether Government has made any investigations in this regard; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to ensure proper use of money?

Constitution of second State Reorganisation Commission

1830. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to constitute a second State Reorganisation Commission (SRC);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

Militants modules to attack IMA

1831. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prior to Ayodhya attack by the militants two of the three modules were sent from Pakistan to attack IMA in Dehradun and Wipro or Infosys in Bangalore;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the information on the aborted attack was conveyed to Pakistan President in Delhi in April; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Medical Visa

1832. SHRI R.S. GAVAI:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRIMATISAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to grant 'Medical Visa' to foreigners visiting the country for medical treatment;

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

(c) what safeguards are taken to ensure that the 'Medical Visa' is not misused, particularly for anti-national activities?

Child marriages

†1833. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that as per the recent surveys conducted by the National Commission for Women group marriages of the girls between the age group of 12 to 14 years are being openly held under the open patronage of senior citizens, local leaders in the States of Bihar, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make law regarding registration of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

marriage in view of the horrifying result of child marriage;

(c) if so, by when and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Paramilitary personnel killed fighting terrorism

1834. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Paramilitary personnel died while fighting terrorists on/close to borders during last three years;

(b) the details of compensation paid to each of them during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government would treat such paramilitary personnel on par with military personnel while giving compensation, awards etc.?

Foreign aid to NGOs engaged in North-Eastern States

†1835. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Non-Governmental Organisations working in North-Eastern States are receiving foreign aid;

(b) if so, the details of such Organisations togetherwith field of work and foreign institutions/persons giving aid; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to monitor the activities of such Non-Governmental Organisations?

Persons detained under POTA

1836. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 663 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th May, 2005 and to state:

(a) by when persons detained under POTA are likely to be released; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to release all as a gesture of goodwill?

Use of women for spreading AIDS amongst security forces

†1837. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any information that terrorist organizations of North-East are using HIV infected women with the intention of spreading AIDS among security forces as their strategy;

(b) whether any information in this regard has been given to Directors-General of Central Security Forces; and

(c) the steps taken by them, so far?

Firing between BSF and Bangladesh Rifles

†1838. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident of firing between Border Security Force and Bangladesh Rifles had taken place on 27th October, 2004 near Jalpaiguri; and

(b) the number of incidents of firing and clashes between BSF and Bangladesh Rifles during the last years and the reasons therefor; the amount of loss of lives and property therein?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Utilization of funds for Tsunami victims

1839. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is known to Government that in number of States public has donated huge sums of money into Chief Minister Relief Fund for Tsunami victims;

(b) if so, how much money have so far been utilized for 'Tsunami victims', State-wise break up; and

(c) how much money is still to be utilized, State-wise break up?

National Cyclone Risk Management Programme in Orissa

1840. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Orissa Government proposes to implement National Cyclone Risk Management Programme in its coastal districts;

(b) whether it is a 100 per cent Centrally sponsored project, if not the major component of the assistance rendered by the Centre and external financial agencies in the matter;

(c) whether the Centre also proposes to help the cash-strapped Orissa State to instal automatic warning system to forewarn the people about the impending natural calamities such as Tsunami, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Floods in Gujarat

1841. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated amount of loss of property in the State of Gujarat due to devastating floods in June, 2005;

(b) how much amount has been given to Gujarat from Calamity Relief Fund as a share of Government of India from 1st April, 2001 to 31st March, 2005;

(c) whether any other type of financial assistance was given to Gujarat to meet the heavy losses due to natural calamities, during last five years from 1st April, 2001 to 31st March, 2005, year-wise; and

(d) whether Rs. 500 crores declared by Prime Minister to Gujarat is a part of routine assistance or a special additional assistance from Government of India to meet the flood relief works?

Implementation of schemes/ programmes under NES

1842. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been undertaking periodic review of the progress of various schemes/programmes being implemented under the Non-Conventional energy programme in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether inspite of enough potential in generating Power through these programmes/schemes the expenditure incurred thereon have been very low; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure adequate allocation of funds for effective implementation of these programmes?

Financial assistance/grants for power generation from waste

1843. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated quantum of production of power from waste as of now, State-wise;

(b) the details of financial assistance/grants provided by Government for the generation of power from waste under the National Programme; and

(c) the steps taken to popularize this scheme for better implementation?

National Power Policy

1844. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalized the National Power Policy;

(b) if so, the salient feature of the Policy; and

(c) how the Navratna companies like NTPC will be benefited from the policy?

Shortage of power in the country

1845. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of power in the country and Government has failed to achieve the targets of supplying adequate power to various states;

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

(c) whether Government is considering strengthening the hands of NTPC for generation of more power in various parts of the country and if not, the reasons therefor?

Visit of official of NTPC to West Asian Countries to negotiate the procurement of gas

1846. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether top officials of NTPC have visited various West Asian countries to negotiate for the procurement of gas for NTPC plants;

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

(c) whether NTPC aim to add 1,00,000 MW power generation capacity by 2012; and

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

NTPC into petroleum and gas sector

1847. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC is planning to foray into other business including gas and petroleum sector;

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

(c) whether NTPC is participating in international global tenders for construction of power plants in Joint Venture; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with the names of countries where NTPC is actively negotiating for power projects?

Allocation of funds under RGGVY

†1848. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme is in operation;

(b) whether State of Bihar has been allocated funds for this scheme in this financial year;

(c) what progress has been made so far; and

(d) what contribution has to be shared by the State in this scheme?

New Power tariff policy

1849. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is preparing a new power tariff policy for the country;

(b) if so, does it not dilute the Electricity Act, 2003;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has scaled down the power generation target from 41,110 MW to 36,956 MW;

(d) what are the reasons for bringing it down; and

(e) how the proposed new tariff helps in saving electricity supply of power to consumers at a reasonable rates and reducing shortage of power?

Setting up hydro-electric power plants in U.P.

1850. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the places where hydro- electric power plants have been set up in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details of the places where such plants are proposed to set up in Uttar Pradesh during the current year;

(c) whether Government are taking any steps to set up the above power plants in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Central assistance for providing electricity in rural areas

1851. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Rajiv Gandhi Grameena Vidyutikaran Yojana launched and how many States are covered under this yojana and what are its important features;

(b) how many villages/hamlets are waiting for power connection in Karnataka; and

(c) whether it is a fact that State Government had sought Rs. 700 crore from the Centre for providing electricity in rural areas over the next five years?

Rules for implementation of Electricity Act

1852. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government has laid down set of rules for the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

implementation of the Electricity Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Deficit of power

1853. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some of our States are in the grip of a severe power crisis where the power deficit ranges from 7 per cent to 25 per cent in April, 2005;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the deficit of power is adversely affecting not only industrial/agriculture sector but also hard-hitting the common man;

(c) whether the major cause of the shortage is its theft, leakage, transmission and commercial losses; and

(d) if so, the action plan of Government to address these issues?

Cancellation of licences by CERC

1854. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has threatened to cancel the licences of several important companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names and number of such companies?

Providing Naphtha at reasonable rate to Kerala power stations

1855. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are five power stations in Kerala that are depending on Naphtha (Liquid fuel) for generation of electricity;

(b) if so, whether the cost of Naphtha supplied for power generation will be considerably high from July, 2005 onwards;

(c) if so, whether steps will be taken to provide Naphtha at affordable administered rate till LNG is made available for power generation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

Financial losses in power sector due to theft

1856. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the financial losses in power sector had risen from Rs. 3000 crores in 1991-92 to Rs. 30,000 crores in 2000-01 which has been mainly attributed to power theft; and

(b) the details of cases of power theft detected in India last year?

Subansiri Lower Hydro Electric Project

1857. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydro Project is being executed through indigenous technology or expertise of foreign agencies have been sought by the Government;

(b) whether all aspects of flood, earthquake etc., have been accounted for in the planning of this project; and

(c) what other steps Government is taking to fulfil the 50,000 MW

Hydropower initiative proposed by the previous Government?

Subansiri Lower Hydro-Electric Project

1858. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) why Subansiri lower Hydro-Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh/Assam by National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation is being delayed; and

(b) what steps the Government has taken so far to remove the hurdles, if any?

Increase in electricity charges in Delhi

1859. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission has increased 10 per cent Electricity charges for domestic consumers and also agriculture sector;

(b) whether power hike in Delhi is affecting the middle class consumers very severely; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to reduce the tariff for middle class and poorest sections of Delhities?

Allocation to Bihar for pure drinking water programme

†1860. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Bihar during the current financial year for rural pure drinking water programme;

(b) the names of the districts in which this programme is being implemented;

(c) whether any Committee has been constituted for the success of this programme; and

(d) if so, the composition thereof?

Allocation of funds for rural development to Bihar

†1861. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated by Government for all the segments of the rural development of Bihar and the total amount released during the financial year 2004-05;

(b) the amount yet to be released on 1st April, 2004 and 1st April, 2005 respectively and the amount spent out of the amount available during the financial year 2004-05; and

(c) what is the latest position in the financial year 2005-06?

Increasing cash component in FFWP

1862. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister has expressed his desire to increase the cash component in the National Food for Work Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many States are also demanding to increase the cash component from the present 50 per cent to 75 per cent; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Drinking water scheme projects

1863. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a number of potable drinking water scheme projects from various States/UTs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon with the amount sanctioned, State-wise?

Bharat Nirman Scheme

1864. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recently approved a massive investment scheme of Rs. 1,74,000 crore for the renewal of rural infrastructure under the composite "Bharat Nirman Scheme" at a meeting of the Committee on Rural Infrastructure held in New Delhi on 16th May, 2005;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, State-wise, Project-wise and allocation-wise and total period likely to be taken by Central Government, to implement this scheme as a whole; and

(c) the details of benefit likely to accrue, under the above mentioned scheme, State-wise particularly to Maharashtra and Punjab?

Implementation of DPAP in Tamil Nadu

1865. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified drought prone districts in Southern Parts of Tamil Nadu for implementation of Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) due to drought situation prevailing there during 2003—05;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status and break-up of funds released under the DPAP for those drought prone districts in Southern Parts of Tamil Nadu?

Boosting public investment in rural infrastructure

1866. SHRIMATISUKHBUNSKAUR: SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how far the object of boosting public investment in rural infrastructure as envisaged under the Common Minimum Programme was fulfilled as per Prime Minister's appraisal after end of first year of UPA regime; and

(b) the amount invested in different areas of rural infrastructure and comparative figures for the preceding three years?

Assistance for potable water crisis in States

†1867. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to give assistance to the States suffering from potable water crisis;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have prepared any outline for giving special economic assistance to the major States suffering from potable water crisis by giving special category status to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

such States to save them from this crisis under this plan; and

(c) if so, the names of States which have been given this status and details thereof?

Allocation for houses constructed under IAY

1868. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the annual allocation of the Union Government for the promotion of rural housing through Indira Awas Yojana during each of the last 3 years, State-wise;

(b) the number of rural houses constructed under the programme during each of the last 3 years, State-wise;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for rural houses during the current year and 2006-07; if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken thereon;

(d) whether this scheme is sufficient to meet the housing needs of the rural habitants of the country; and

(e) if so, the justifications therefor and if not, the steps proposed to be taken therefor?

Scheme for construction of houses in NER

1869. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of scheme which are being implemented for construction of houses in the rural and sub-rural areas in North-East Region, particularly in Assam;

(b) what is the cost of construction of each such unit; and

(c) the total allocation made for this scheme in Assam indicating the details of utilisation made so far?

Anomalies in FFWP

1870. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food for Work Programme (FFWP) is implemented in all selected districts;

(b) if so, the details of funds allotted and utilised, number of village selected, daily wage fixed as on today, district-wise, category-wise, State-wise;

(c) if so, whether daily wage fixed in FFWP in any State is less than the national minimum;

(d) whether the wage and rate fixed for work is low to that of rate fixed for same work in manual for Government contractors;

(e) if so, whether there is any proposal to raise cash component of FFWP; and

(f) the details of steps to be taken to rectify the above anomalies?

PMGSY in Eastern U.P.

1871. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has been abolished or withheld for some days;

(b) if so, the justification therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons for not including any new road of various districts in Eastern Uttar Pradesh in this plan during the last one year;

(d) whether Government are aware that the roads recommended for Azamgarh,

Mau and Sultanpur districts in the year 2003-04 have not been constructed so far; and

(e) the reasons for not yet starting the construction work of Galibaha-Chamurkha-Jafrapur road in Sultanpur district despite the finalisation of its tender?

Proposals for rural development from States

1872. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by the Central Government from the various States of the country for the rural development during this current year; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Central outlay in PMGSY

1873. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of central outlay in the PMGSY in different States during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) the unspent amount of money, State-wise; and

(c) the target achieved so far, on all India basis and particularly in Rajasthan?

SGSY in Rajasthan

1874. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana is being implemented by

the Union Government in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the financial assistance provided by Government during three years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06;

(c) the number of Self-Help Groups that have been formed; and

(d) the number of persons benefited from the scheme during the last three years?

Non-utilization of budgetary allocation

1875. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the budgetary allocation made for the Ministry for last five years from 2001-02 to 2005-06;

(b) what is the actual utilization of the budgetary allocation during last four years from 2001-02 to 2004-05;

(c) whether it is a fact that in spite of repeated requests made by States and NGOs to sanction more schemes, no action is taken on one side and the funds remain unutilized on the other; and

(d) what mechanism is sought, to utilize the budgetary allocations in full?

IWDP in Chhattisgarh

† 1876. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP) in Chhattisgarh; and

(b) the details of results achieved so far in the State under Integrated Wasteland Development Project?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Import of silk from China

1877. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has put a stop to import of silk from China;

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

(c) the total silk imported from China during the last three years; year-wise?

Development of silk industry

1878. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for the promotion and development of silk industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to implement the above proposal?

Exploration of new markets for export of textiles

†1879. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government proposals to explore new markets for the export of textiles;

(b) whether new markets have been explored for any specific export during the last year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to boost the exports?

Initiatives to boost textile exports

1880. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current row between China on one hand and United States and the European Union on the other is likely to help Indian textile exports;

(b) if so, whether the recent initiatives taken by Government and manufacturers will also help boost exports;

(c) whether US and EU have imposed an import quota on Chinese products according to the provision of the Textile specific Measure clause of the Accession Agreement signed by China; and

(d) if so, to what extent this quality fixation has helped India to improve its trade with US and EU?

Revival of NJMC units

1881. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to revive two of the six NJMC units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the revival of these units are being examined by BRPSE;

(d) if so, the reasons for not referring all the six NJMC units to BRPSE for a detailed examination of the revival prospects;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) whether the operating units which were stopped because of disconnection of electricity supply is being restarted after payment of the unpaid power charges; and

(f) if not, the reason therefor?

Demand of Indian clothes in foreign countries

†1882. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is huge demand of our clothes in foreign countries which are woven with Indian looms;

(b) the extent of foreign trade of clothes made with looms; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to assist this sector?

Global demand for textile items

1883. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is spurt in global demand for textile items and that the small textile units are gearing up to do good business;

(b) if so, anticipated demand of Indian textile items during next three years and likely share of small sector mills and handlooms; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that only international standard quality items are exported to give a regular work orders to weavers and handloom houses?

NEW DELHI;
The 4th August, 2005
Shravana 13, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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