## RAJYA SABHA

## List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on

Tuesday, the December 10, 2002/Agrahayana 19, 1924 (Saka)

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

#### Total number of questions—155

## Disaster response team for probing accidents

1944. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to constitute a national level disaster response team of experts to ensure that accidents are probed quickly and impartially and victims are identified to avoid legal complications at the time of payment of compensation;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) by when such a response team of experts would be formed to rush to the site of accident whenever exigencies arise?

## **Civil Aviation Training Academy**

1945. SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Civil Aviation Training Academy in Southern part of the country; and
  - (b) if so, the details in this regard?

#### Palace on Air

1946. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to introduce a "Palace on Air" with seventy seater aircraft for taking international tourists to the State of Rajasthan at a cost of Rs. 1500 crores;
- (b) whether Government have assessed its financial viability;
- (c) how much it would cost to an international tourist;
- (d) the details of countries from which Government anticipate the visitors; and
- (e) by when such a project is likely to be finalized?

## N. K. Singh Committee report on FDI in civil aviation sector

1947. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the N. K. Singh Committee report on raising the foreign direct investment limit to 49 per cent in civil aviation;

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

## Landing of Sahara aircraft on wrong taxi track

- 1948. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing in the Hindu, Delhi dated the 27th September, 2002 captioned "Private Airlines on the wrong track;"
- (b) if so, the reasons for keeping the apex regulatory body in dark about August 10 incident involving an Air Sahara Boeing 737 on wrong taxi track; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to check such incidents involving Private airlines especially Sahara and Jet Airways in future?

## Radars at IGI Airport, Delhi

- 1949. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that recently three out of seven radar display screens, which monitor the movement and safety of aircrafts over an air space of 300-350 nautical miles have gone out of order at the Air Traffic Control Section of the Indira Gandhi International Airport and the necessary spare equipments have not been procured so far;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that a poor substitute, the portable television sets which can monitor only up to about 25-30 nautical miles are being used; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken to replace the radar screens and also to meet emergencies?

## Share of AI in passenger traffic

- 1950. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are concerned at the fall in the share of Air India passenger traffic as several carriers have captured its large share due to lack of competitiveness;
- (b) whether its share is now just 20 per cent as against 33 per cent ten years ago; and
- (c) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by Government to correct the slide?

## **Second airport at Metro Cities**

- 1951. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided against setting up second International Airport in or around Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai:
- (b) if so, whether Government have not yet taken any decision for leasing of airports to private operators;
- (c) if so, what are the main reasons for not setting up of second International Airport and also delaying decisions for leasing of airports to private operators;
- (d) whether this project is pending for long; and
- (e) whether Government have now finally decided to complete the process by the end of this year?

## Profit earned by AI

- 1952. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
  - (a) whether Air India has registered a

profit during the first half of the current year; and

(b) if so, the amount of profit and the figures of profit of corresponding period last year?

#### Eligibility for Haj subsidy

1953. SHRI B. J. PANDA: MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any kind of subsidy is paid to Haj pilgrims, if so, what are the norms for eligibility;
- (b) whether well-off and affluent pilgrims are also extended this benefit, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether such kind of subsidy is also paid to the other Indian pilgrims for pilgrimage abroad, if so, the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor?

## Excess fare charged on Mumbai-Delhi sector

1954. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:

SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Senior Citizens are charged concessional fare on all Indian Airlines flights;
- (b) if so, the reasons for Travel Agents charging excess fare on the plea of progressive fare from Mumbai to Delhi; and
- (c) what is the concessional fare from Mumbai to Delhi by Indian Airlines and Travel Agents and the action proposed to be

taken to make the Travel Agents refund excess money?

#### Completion of privatisation of airports

1955. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the process of the proposed leasing of metro airports to private operators would not be complete by the scheduled date of March, 2003; and
- (b) if so, at what stage is the proposal and the reasons for delay?

### **Operation of Qatar Airways**

1956. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Qatar Airways has decided to start flights from Hyderabad;
- (b) if so, by when this service will be started; and
- (c) the other starting points from where Qatar Airways provides air services?

### Concessional fare on Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur sector

- †1957. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any scheme to declare special concessional fares on route for Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur where Indian Airlines is the only service provider;
- (b) if so, by when, it is going to be implemented and if not, the reasons for depriving the passengers of this route from this facility; and

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

(c) whether any other Airlines are also interested in providing services on this route and if so, by when this service is scheduled to be started?

#### Hike in airfares

1958. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether consequent to hike in the price of aviation fuel and high sales tax on fuel, domestic airlines are all set to raise passenger fares;
- (b) if so, what is the percentage of the proposed hike; and
- (c) by when this hike is likely to be effective?

#### Temporary employees in AAI

- †1959. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of group 'C' and 'D' employees who have been kept on temporary basis in Airports Authority of India during the last three years;
- (b) the period of employment of each such temporary employees whether working continuously or with break;
- (c) the salary paid to each employee per month; and
- (d) the details of the steps being taken by Government to fill up the posts on permanent basis?

# Direct flight between Hyderabad and Bangkok

1960. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Centre for one direct flight between Hyderabad and Bangkok;
- (b) if so, whether Government would agree to the request;
- (c) if so, by when it would be introduced; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Operation of Phuket Air from Kolkata to Bangkok

- 1961. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any proposal from M/s Phuket Air to operate flights on 'Bangkok-Kolkata Bangkok' has been forwarded by the Government of West Bengal;
- (b) whether necessary permission is being accorded by the Ministry of Civil Aviation: and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Mumbai airport as an international airline hub

1962. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government are seriously considering any proposal for the conversion of Mumbai airport into an international airline hub by treating it as a special economic zone besides creating new private airports on build, operate and transfer basis or build, own and operate basis;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

# Special Purpose Vehicle for privatisation of airports

1963. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a revised proposal has been formulated recently to float a Special Purpose Vehicle, instead of outright leasing, for each of the four metropolitan airports for the privatisation programme;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the revised formulation and the details thereof; and
- (c) the brief assessment of the interest shown by international companies to participate in the privatisation programme during the road shows held at New Delhi and London recently?

### Profit by Air India

1964. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India has crossed 70 years of its establishment and after a lapse of six years has registered a profit of Rs. 40 crore during the first six months of the current fiscal year;
- (b) if so, what is the target fixed for the current as well as next financial year;
- (c) whether Air India is one of the four airlines across the globe which is making profit after 11th September, 2001; and
- (d) if so, what are the reasons for its disinvestment?

## Air service from Muzaffarpur

†1965. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to start air service from Patahi airport, Muzaffarpur in Bihar or whether any proposal in this regard is under Government's consideration;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Improvement in catering on board IA

†1966. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government propose to streamline and improve the quality of system of providing information with regard to quality of edible items, adherence of time schedule and flights in their airlines?

#### Accidents involving private airlines

- 1967. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether private airlines are not adhering to Government's stipulation that incidents or accidents, minor or major, involving their aircraft be reported to it;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases that has come to the notice of Government during the last three years; and
- (c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

#### Disbursement of Kisan credit cards

1968. SHRI B. J. PANDA: MISS MABEL REBELLO:

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

(a) the number of Kisan credit cards so far disbursed and proposed target for further disbursement of these cards; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the facilities available to the farmers on these cards?

(d) if so, the details of borrowings by each State?

#### Reduction in Income-Tax slabs

1969. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that tax paid in the middle class in India is the highest in the world:
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering to reduce the current slabs from about 30 per cent to 20 per cent on individual earning between Rs. 1.5 to 2 lakhs;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

## India's credit rating

1970. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'The Economic Times' dated 28th October, 2002 titled, 'Crumbling Finances likely to further erode India's rating';
- (b) if so, the details thereof and how it is proposed to meet the crisis when guarantees to the extent of Rs. 44,000 crores devolve on the State Governments;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the States, burdened as they are with large volumes of high cost debt, may not be able to meet their obligations and thus default; and

#### Cancellation of licences of stock brokers

1971. SHRI S. M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that SEBI has cancelled the licence of many stock brokers during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the number of brokers who lost their licence due to action by SEBI;
- (c) whether any punitive action has been initiated by SEBI;
- (d) if not, the reasons for SEBI taking a soft stand against such brokers who violated the rules; and
- (e) what further steps SEBI proposes to take to improve the functioning of Stock Exchanges in the country?

# Pendency of applications with DCA under managerial remunerations

1972. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of applications are pending with Department of Company Affairs for approval under managerial remunerations;
- (b) if so, the number of such applications pending for more than a minimum period of two/three months;
- (c) what are the reasons for the pendency; and
- (d) what steps are being taken to clear this backlog?

## Estimated fiscal deficit

- 1973. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the fiscal deficit estimated for the current fiscal (2002-2003) as per this year's budget both in percentage and absolute terms:
- (b) whether as per Government's assessment it will be possible to contain fiscal deficit within the estimated figures;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and what steps are proposed to be taken in this direction; and
- (d) the position of various State Governments in this regard?

## New posts for Custom Commissioners

- 1974. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Ministry of Finance has created 140 new posts for Custom Commissioners recently; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

## Tax on farm income

- 1975. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUK-KARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to tax farm income with an exception limit of Rs. 1 lakh as recommended by tax conference organised by ASSOCHAM recently;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government have examined the other recommendations made by the conference; and
- (e) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

### Bonds for co-operative banks

- †1976. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to issue bonds to the tune of Rs. 8000 crores for co-operative banks;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that most of the State and District co-operative banks are incurring losses; and
- (d) if so, what action Government are taking to get them out of the red?

# Revision of Excise and Customs structure

- 1977. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are any proposals with Government to revise Excise and Customs structure;
- (b) what are the salient features of the reforms; and
  - (c) by when they will be introduced?

## Increase in expenditure

†1978. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 'Dainik Jagran dated the 21st August, 2002 captioned, "Bharhana tha Rajasva kar aur badh gaya kharch";
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Department has raised a battalion of officers for lowering the income tax related disputes and recovering the irrecoverable revenue and has increased its burden of salary but the blocked up amount has gone up to ten thousand crore rupees;
  - (c) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) what steps are taken/proposed to be taken up by Government for improving this situation?

#### Recommendation of Tenth Finance Commission

†1979. SHRI LALU PRASAD: PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Tenth Finance Commission had prepared an alternative plan for revenue transfer to States according to which States were supposed to get 33 per cent of the gross Central tax receipts;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the then Chief Minister of Rajasthan had also made recommendations in this regard; and
- (c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, whether Government would make payment of 33 per cent to the States?

#### **Inquiry against companies**

†1980. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Company Affairs has conducted an inquiry into the irregularities of various companies during 2000, 2001 and the last 9 months of 2002:
- (b) if so, the names of companies against whom such inquiry has been conducted during the above period;
- (c) the details of complaints against each of the companies; and
- (d) the names of the companies which have been found guilty?

## Part time employees in SBI

1981. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH:

- (a) the number of part-time employees working presently in SBI and its associate banks in Delhi, bank-wise;
- (b) the number of employees who have completed five years of service in SBI and its associate banks, bank-wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to regularise their services as permanent full time, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, whether Government would consider the regularisation of their services into permanent full-time one?

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

## Revival of Badla Transactions in stock market

1982. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to Ketan Parekh scam in the stock market, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned carry forward transactions popularly known as Badla;
- (b) if so, whether Government's action has resulted in a severe blow to stock market and business turn over has drastically come down to mere 10 per cent on BSE and NSE; and
- (c) if so, whether Government would consider reviving of carry forward transactions (Badla) in the interest of the investors, and if not, the reasons therefor?

## Fake shares racket

1983. SHRI BHAGAT RAM
MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Huge racket unearthed in fake shares" which appeared in the Asian Age, New Delhi, dated the 18th November, 2002;
- (b) if so, what are the names of the companies involved in this racket; and

(c) what action Government have taken or proposed to take against these companies in the interest of small investors?

## **Trading in Government securities**

1984. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRA-IAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that bulk of profits generated by nationalized banks during 2001-2002 is due to trading of Government securities;
- (b) if so, the profit generated by each of the nationalized bank due to trading in Government securities and that otherwise in each case:
- (c) in what manner the nationalized banks have been able to generate profits due to trading in Government securities in view of the slump in share market in India as well as abroad; and
- (d) whether RBI has satisfied itself that the nationalized banks have not indulged in syndication to show profit for trading in Government securities?

## Relaxation in foreign borrowing norms

1985. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MISS MABEL REBELLO:

- (a) what is the proposed policy of relaxation in foreign borrowing norms for domestic firms;
- (b) the limits upto which a firm can directly borrow from International agencies

and whether the firms are free to pay back the loans directly to these agencies; and

(c) what are the reasons for this liberalization?

#### **Bankruptcy in States**

1986. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of States such as Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Assam are actually going bankrupt;
- (b) if so, what steps are being taken at the Centre/State levels for their revival;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Airlines refused air tickets to some of the Chief Ministers of such States; and
  - (d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

#### Representation of Ayurvedic Drug Manufacturers Association

1987. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

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

- (a) whether the Ayurvedic Drug Manufacturers Association has represented against excise duty on whole range of Asavs;
- (b) if so, the magnitude of the excise duty imposed on Asavs;
- (c) whether this has increased difficulties of the industry which is struggling to survive in a highly competitive market; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to provide relief to the industry?

#### Performance of Debt Recovery Tribunals

1988. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

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

- (a) whether Government have made an assessment of the performance of Debt Recovery Tribunals;
  - (b) if so, the findings in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken for further strengthening of the machinery for making speedy recoveries?

#### Privatisation of banks

1989. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government find it necessary to prepare a roadmap for privatisation of public sector banks;
- (b) if so, what are the factors that necessitated Government to come to this conclusion:
- (c) by when, the action plan will be finalised; and
- (d) the details of banks identified for the proposed privatisation?

#### Interest rates on credit cards

1990. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

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

 (a) whether it is a fact that interest rates being charged on credit cards by the various nationalized and foreign banks are highly exorbitant;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government are aware that in U.K., U.S.A. and Canada the interest rates charged on credit cards is less than 12 to 15 per cent whereas in India it is above 30 per cent; and
- (d) if so, whether Government propose to inquire into the matter so as to ensure the reduction in interest rates to that of international standards?

#### Writing off of loans by banks

- †1991. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government/ R.B.I. has launched a scheme to settle the loans amounting to Rs. one lakh, cases regarding which were pending in courts for the last 15-20 years on repayments of principal amount without interest;
  - (b) if so, the results thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Amount of loan in the priority sectors

## †1992. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether Government would consider to augment the present percentage of the amount to be provided by the banks in the priority sectors of the country after liberalisation and globalisation;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that several new industries have been added in this sector during the last three years; and
  - (d) if so, the names thereof?

#### Waiver of interest on crop loans to Karnataka farmers

- 1993. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought waiver of interest on crop loans availed by the Karnataka farmers in view of the severe drought in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the amount of interest sought to be waived; and
- (c) the action, if any, taken in this regard?

## De-mutualisation of Indian stock exchanges

- 1994. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) what steps are being taken by Government for expeditious demutualisation of Indian stock exchanges;
- (b) what steps have been taken by Government for tackling the white-collar crimes in the financial market; and
- (c) what steps have been or are being taken by Government and SEBI to ensure that the investors at large do not get a much lower price than paid by Grasim to Reliance for Larsen and Tubro shares?

## Search and seizure powers of SEBI

1995. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner the new powers of search and seizure given recently to SEBI are going to help the public investor in the light of SEBI's extremely poor track record of detecting frauds;

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

- (b) what are the checks and balances in exercise of the search and seizure powers given to SEBI to ensure that these powers are not misused; and
- (c) what steps Government propose to take to restore the faith of the investors in Indian capital markets?

## Functioning of NBFCs without registration

1996. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether RBI has been actively considering to come down heavily on the Non-Banking Financial Companies which have been carrying their operation even after rejection of their registration applications;
- (b) if so, the details of the NBFCs whose registration have been cancelled by RBI;
- (c) whether the enforcement agencies have been asked to prevent operation of such firms in various States; and
- (d) if so, by when such companies would be wound up to improve investor's confidence?

## Income tax rebate for dependents

- 1997. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that rebate is available under Section 80 DD of the Income Tax Act for the dependent family members of Government employees;
- (b) if so, the reasons for which the rebate is available only for one dependant irrespective of the number of dependents; and
- (c) whether Government propose to remove the anomaly and give benefit for the actual number of handicapped dependents?

### Calculation of income

1998. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that honorarium is paid for delivering lecture to the trainees, setting of question paper, setting of papers, invigilation duties outside the duties performed in the ordinary course and are not covered under FR 46; and
- (b) if so, whether any limit has been fixed therefor and the details thereof and whether the said earning comes under the heading "income from other sources" for the purpose of calculation of income with the details thereof and upto what extent it is free from income tax?

#### Increase in cost of medical insurance

- 1999. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the premium on medical insurance has been increased by 5.5 per cent from October, 2002;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what additional benefits and facilities will be made available to the persons insured under the increased premium?

## Cut on expenditure of Ministries

2000. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a 10 per cent cut on the expenditure of Government Departments was imposed;
- (b) if so, whether this target was achieved during first half of the financial year;

- (c) if not, the factors responsible for the failure of Government to adhere to its decision; and
- (d) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that 10 per cent cut materialize this year?

## **Debt Recovery Tribunals**

#### 2001. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

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

- (a) whether Government have set up Debt Recovery Tribunals for recovery of bank dues;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the average number of cases booked per DRT;
- (d) whether Government propose to assign high value cases to DRT to expedite recovery; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

## World Bank loan for Andhra Pradesh Community Forest Management

- 2002. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have signed an agreement with World Bank for \$ 108 million credit (equivalent to Rs. 531.36 crores) for the Andhra Pradesh Community Forest Management;
- (b) if so, the number and names of districts of Andhra Pradesh where this amount will be utilized; and
- (c) by when work on this project would commence?

#### NPA of UTI

2003. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of Industrial houses which have not paid their outstanding loans to UTI and have become defaulters;
- (b) the total amount of loan on each Industrial house and since when this loan is outstanding; and
- (c) the action taken so far by Government to recover this loan?

## Curb on black money

2004. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHER-JEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has suggested any measures for controlling black money generated in the country by evasion of customs, excise, income and sales tax; and
- (b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken on these suggestions?

# Outstanding dues against industrial groups

2005. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHER-JEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 395 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18th December, 2001 and state:

- (a) the amount of Income Tax, Estate and other Commercial Taxes outstanding against the top 120 Industrial/Commercial Units of the country in the year 2001-2002; and
- (b) the amount recovered during the last three years, year-wise?

### Net bank credit to women

2006. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all public sector banks have to earmark 5 per cent of their net bank credit for lending to women under various general and Government sponsored schemes:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that banks are not adhering to it and not generating data of coverage of women entrepreneurs scheme-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what is the bank-wise data of credit provided to women under various schemes during the last two years, schemewise and State-wise?

# Instruction by SEBI against plantation companies in Madhya Pradesh

2007. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Securities and Exchange Board of India SEBI has passed strictures against plantation companies in Madhya Pradesh:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to safeguard the interests of the investors; and
- (d) the number, names and details of the plantation companies in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh?

#### Restructuring of RBI

2008. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether the Ministry of Finance has set up a special Committee to work on a possible restructuring and revamping of the RRI
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) by when, it is proposed to be set up?

#### Searches on accounting firms

- 2009. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have conducted searches on some accounting firms;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
  - (c) what is the scope of searches;
  - (d) what was the outcome; and
- (e) whether this type of searches will be followed at regular intervals in future to keep tab on the accounting firms?

## **Fiscal Management Committee**

2010. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are contemplating to form a high level Committee under the Chairmanship of Union Finance Minister to work-out possible solution with Fiscal Management to sort-out the Fiscal mess at the Centre and the States:
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

## Financial irregularities of Sahara Group

2011. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sahara India Parivar are engaged in the business of Chitfund, besides having Sahara Air;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this group has indulged in financial irregularities and are not safeguarding the interest of small investors; and
- (c) if so, whether Company Law Board and other law-enforcement agencies have ordered a thorough probe into the financial irregularities of this group, and if not, the reasons therefor?

### Change in shipping taxes

- 2012. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to make changes in shipping taxes;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and
- (c) by when final decision in this regard will be taken?

#### Growth rate of GDP

- 2013. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Finance is non-committal about the budgetary support envisaged in the Tenth Plan for achieving 8 per cent growth in GDP;
- (b) if so, what is the proposed budgetary support; and
- (c) what is the likely support proposed by Government?

## Shortage of coins in Gujarat

- 2014. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the coins of small denominations such as rupee one, two and five are issued by the Reserve Bank of India;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of coins in Gujarat;
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to overcome the problem; and
- (d) the details of coins supplied to the State during the last three years?

#### Vacant posts in Customs Department

- 2015. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that important posts in the Customs Department are lying vacant;
- (b) if so, the details of the Group A posts that are lying vacant and the time since when they are lying vacant togetherwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry of Finance to fill the vacancies?

### **Direct Tax collection**

- 2016. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Direct Tax collection has shown a sharp decline;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures proposed to be taken to enhance tax collection;

- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is resentment among salaried class, both in PSUs and Government, for repeatedly being targeted when it comes to revenue generation, sparing the unorganised sector, including small and large commercial enterprises, which have scope for higher yield if properly tapped; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for the purpose so as to provide some relief to the already burdened salaried class?

## Scheme for long term lending by banks

- 2017. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India is evolving a scheme whereby banks are facilitated to engage in long term lending;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of the banks to the proposal; and
- (c) whether this scheme would have any adverse impact on the borrowings of SSI Units and the farming sector?

## Forward trading in bullion

- 2018. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are going to allow forward trading in bullion;
- (b) if so, when such trading was stopped; and
- (c) the reasons for allowing such trading now?

#### Utilisation of unclaimed dividends

- 2019. SHRI YADLAPTI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided that the company dividend unpaid and unclaimed for seven years will be put in investors education and protection fund;
- (b) if so, what will be the position of such dividend lying with companies for more than seven years?

#### Rate of interest on deposits

- †2020. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of times the rate of interest on term deposit has been reduced by banks during the last three years and by how much;
- (b) whether Government are aware of the difficulties faced by middle class and senior citizens, who are dependant on interest of the sum deposited in banks, as a result of continuously reducing interest rates on term deposit; and
- (c) if so, whether Government would review the continuous reduction on interest rates on term deposit in view of difficulties faced by middle class and senior citizens?

## Chalapathi Rao's recommendations on RRBS

- 2021. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the existing percentage of Government's share in the Regional Rural Banks:

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

- (b) the percentage of Government's share as proposed by the working group led by M.V.S. Chalapathi Rao, M.D., NABARD;
- (c) whether Government have decided to implement the report of the working group;
- (d) whether the opinion of the trade union organisations will be considered at the time of implementation of Chalapathi Rao's report; and
- (e) the details of Government's decision on Chalpapathi Rao's recommendations?

### Annual meeting of Chief Commissioners of Income Tax

- 2022. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that in May, 2002 during annual meet of Chief Commissioners of Income Tax, it was stated that 79 per cent of non-salaried taxpayers and 46 per cent of salaried taxpayers have shown their incomes below Rs. one lakh and that it constitutes 70 per cent of total taxpayers of 28.5 millions;
- (b) if so, whether the recommendation of Vijay Kelkar Committee suggesting hiking personal income tax exemptions limit to Rs. 1 lakh would thus result in only 30 per cent taxpayers remaining in India; and
- (c) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

## ATM in rural areas

2023. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of banks which have introduced Automated Teller Machine (ATM) facilities in the country;
- (b) whether ATM facility has been provided in rural areas also; and
- (c) if not, by when this facility will be provided in rural areas?

#### Office bearers of AISBOF

- 2024. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that as many as 100 officers of State Bank of India do not attend to their daily work in the bank on the excuse of being office-bearers of the All India State Bank Officers Federation and Associations affiliated to it;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the loss suffered by the bank as a result thereof; and
- (c) what action is being taken or is proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

# Customs duty on import of Palmolien Oil

- 2025. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that due to customs duty on import of Palmolien oil, it costs nearly double to the BPL card holders;
- (b) whether Government of Gujarat has requested Government of India for exemption of customs duty in case of import of palmolien oil for distribution among BPL card holders; and
- (c) whether Government are considering this matter favourably and by when the decision will be taken?

## Restructuring of National Savings Organisation

2026. SHRI BACHANI LEKH-RAJ:Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether is it a fact that under overall restructuring of the National Savings Organisation some regional offices have been replaced by regional Centres;
- (b) if so, what are the parameters for such restructuring;
- (c) whether Ahmedabad Regional Centre has been excluded in the new set up even though eleven per cent share of the total small saving in the country comes from Gujarat if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government are considering the Government of Gujarat's request for reopening of the Ahmedabad Regional Office and if so; by when?

### ATMs for physically challenged

2027. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Make ATMs accessible for the physically challenged" which appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated the 17th October, 2002:
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto: and
- (c) what steps are proposed to be taken for providing best services to physically challenged persons?

#### Tax Evasion by Mohan Nagar Avas Samiti

2028. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a number of complaints of irregularities/

- mismanagements/evasion of Income tax/ corruption in Mohan Nagar Karamachari Sehkari Avas Samiti, Ltd., Mohan Nagar during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether statements of all members of Samiti have been/are being recorded by the Investigation Wing, if so, the findings thereof; and
- (c) what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

#### **Duty on life saving drugs**

2029. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that levy of manufacturing duty on life saving Medical items such as Auto Analysers and Diagnostic Test Kits has been imposed in 2002-2003 budget only on indigenous manufacturers and not on multinationals;
- (b) if so, the details of the reasons for adopting this discriminatory policy; and
- (c) whether Government propose to withdraw these levies in order to correct the anomalies existing in the duty structure?

#### Norms for "Vanished Company"

- 2030. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases reported about the companies, which vanished after mobilizing money from the investors through public issues in the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Department of Company Affairs has prescribed any norms for declaring a company as a 'vanished company';
  - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government have inquired about the veracity of such companies at

the time of its listing in the capital market for public issues; and

(e) if so, what steps are taken by Government to avoid the hardships of the investors in future?

## Financial bungling in DAV Schools/ Colleges

- 2031. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in Punjab Kesri Delhi (Hindi) edition dated the 14th November, 2002 regarding gross irregularities and financial bungling in DAV Schools/Colleges;
- (b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made by Government to establish facts;
- (c) if so, what is the outcome thereof stating the estimated loss in terms of Income Tax suffered by Government during the last three years or so; and
- (d) what action has been taken/proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

# RBI directive to Sanchayani Savings and Investments Ltd.

- 2032. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has directed the Sanchayani Savings and Investments Limited to accept deposits from the public investors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether similar action has been taken against any other Residuary Non-Banking Finance Companies guilty of similar lapses; and

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

## Finance Ministers' conference on service tax

- 2033. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Finance Ministers' conference recently, the Finance Minister of Andhra Pradesh made a strong plea for erecting a legislation to bring services under the Concurrent List and empower the States to levy tax on services;
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) what other major decisions were taken at the Conference for improving the resources position of the State Governments so as to scale down their large fiscal deficits?

## Sale of insurance through Panchayats and NGOs

- 2034. SHRI S. M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have announced a policy which will allow NGOs and Panchayats to sell insurance;
- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard;
- (c) what are the reasons for giving such permission;
- (d) whether this will benefit the public; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for change in the earlier policy?

## Legislation on service tax

2035. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to bring forward legislation on Service Tax;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed enactment and the reasons therefor;
- (c) by when the new legislation is likely to be put in place; and
- (d) whether the proposed law would take care of the interests of the State Governments in regard to the sharing of services with the Central Government?

## Deduction Concession in Income Tax Act

2036. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to terminate all concessions and deductions in the IncomeTax Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government have drawn up a strategy to phase out the concession and if so, the details thereof?

# Failure of disinvestment programme

2037. SHRI PREMCHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the disinvestment programme of Government have gone into total disarray and has been kept in abeyance; and
- (b) if so, in what manner Government propose to meet the shortfall of Rs. 12,000 crore which it was expecting from the sale of PSU shares and a provision for which was made in the budget for the current fiscal?

## Fall in disbursement by Financial Institutions

2038. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a significant fall in sanctions and disbursement by financial institutions during the year 2001-2002;
- (b) if so, whether it will further erode the profitability of the financial institutions and their position would go from bad at present to worse in future;
- (c) whether the above position is due to general economic slowdown or dwindling faith of the industry in the institutions; and
- (d) in what manner Government propose to deal with this situation?

#### Fall in demand of gold

2039. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Gold demand trend in India has fallen significantly;
- (b) if so, the factors behind the declining trend; and
- (c) what has been its impact on jewellery and stock market?

## Relief to plantation sector

- 2040. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware that the State Government of Kerala exempted the plantations from payment of agriculture income tax for the year 2003-2004 to provide relief to plantation sectors;

- (b) whether Government would consider to exempt coffee and tea plantations from excise duty and direct the public sector banks to reschedule the loans:
- (c) whether Government would consider to introduce a package of assistance to the plantation sector and its labourers; and
- (d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

## Supply of gas to Pipavav Project

- 2041. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to allocate 2.25 MMSCMD gas to Pipavav Power Project in Gujarat;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Gujarat has requested the Central Government to allocate additional quantity of gas at pro-rata basis to Power Sector without any diversion; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof?

## Problem faced by refineries in Assam

2042. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the oil refineries located in Assam face difficulties as regards crude supply;
- (b) whether Government have any plan to remove this difficulty to save the refineries there; and
- (c) whether Government are taking steps to explore more oilfields in Assam through

ONGC and OIL or any other agency to get the crude?

#### Exploration of oil and gas

- 2043. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the places in the country where exploration of oil and natural gas has been undertaken by all oil companies during the Ninth Plan; Company-wise and location-wise;
- (b) the details of achievements made so far in this regard;
- (c) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme for exploration of oil and natural gas in different parts of the country during the Tenth Plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

# Agreement between IOC and Khadani Group

- †2044. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed by Indian Oil Corporation with Khadani Group for import facilities;
- (b) if so, the details of the amount to be paid by Indian Oil Corporation under the agreement, facility-wise; and
- (c) the duration of the agreement and need of the agreement and what extra benefit will accrue from this agreement with this very institution?

#### New petrol pumps in Assam

2045. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

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

- (a) the number of new petrol pump dealerships proposed to be set up in Assam during the Tenth Five Year Plan, location-wise:
- (b) the details of funds granted for the same: and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this direction?

#### Removal of LPG from taxation ambit

- 2046. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has sent a proposal to remove LPG outside the ambit of taxation by States to the Union Government:
- (b) whether the Ministry has any plan to declare LNG in the list of 'declared goods' so as to achieve its objective;
  - (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when, the LNG policy is going to be brought before Parliament for its approval?

# Enquiry into allotment of petrol pumps

2047. SHRI KARNENDU
BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED
KHAN (DURRU):

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

(a) whether any independent inquiries through CBI or otherwise have since been made in the light of revelations in press about the irregularities, favouritism and nepotism that came into play in the matter of allotment of petrol pumps and LP Gas dealership during 1999-2000 onwards;

- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the outcome and findings thereof; and
- (d) the action taken against those found responsible for the irregularities?

#### **Adulteration of Petroleum products**

2048. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase in adulteration of petroleum products at the dealer level in the country;
- (b) the number of licences or dealership cancelled in 2001-2002 by PSU oil companies after detection of adulteration of petroleum products;
- (c) the names of such dealers who have lost their business;
- (d) what further steps Government are taking to strengthen the existing weak and ineffective enforcement network;
- (e) whether any outside agency has been hired to do the job; and
  - (f) if so, the details thereof?

## Upgradation of fuel quality

2049. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian refineries have decided to invest around Rs. 30,000 crore to upgrade the fuel quality;
- (b) if so, whether the Mashelkar Committee's recommendations on auto fuel policy calls for an investment of Rs. 18,000 crore up to the year 2005 and additional investment of Rs. 12,000 crore up to 2010 for upgrading the fuel quality in the country;
- (c) if so, to what extent the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has

implemented the recommendations of the Mashelkar Committee so far; and

(d) how much amount has been spent for this purpose?

# Freight rate for transportation of petroleum products

†2050. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

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

- (a) whether freight rate for transportation of petroleum products through pipelines has been fixed:
- (b) if so, the respective freight rate at present for transporting diesel, petrol, gas and crude oil; and
- (c) the criteria fixed for determining these rates?

# Transportation of petroleum products through pipeline

†2051. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that pipelines are being laid for transportation of crude oil, petrol, gas and diesel etc. in the country;
- (b) if so, the total length of pipelines laid till October, 2002; and
- (c) the length of the pipelines out of the above through which transportation of petroleum products has already been started?

# Assessment of domestic production of petroleum products

†2052. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to fulfil 50 per cent of the demand of petroleum products by way of the domestic production;
- (b) if so, the time when this decision was taken and the details of the decision thereof; and
- (c) by when this target is expected to be achieved?

# Meeting with State excise Ministers on gasohol-petrol

2053. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:

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

- (a) whether he met the excise and sugarcane Ministers from nine sugarcane-growing States in the month of November, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether the agenda was to smoothen the bumps in the way to start commercial sales of gasohol-petrol laced with five percent ethanol in these States from January 1, 2003;
- (c) if so, what were the main decisions taken; and
- (d) to what extent these States have agreed to this proposal?

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

#### Losses suffered due to adulteration

## †2054. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that loss of Rs. 10,000 crores is assessed to occur to the economy of the country due to adulteration in diesel, petrol and other energy sources;
  - (b) if not, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the total number of cases of adulteration in petrol and diesel detected during the last three years; and
- (d) the number of cases on which no decision has been taken and the number of cases in which culprits have been punished by courts out of these?

# Auto LPG dispensing stations in Karnataka

- 2055. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has opened Auto Liquefied Petroleum Gas Dispensing Stations in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the names of the places where they are opened;
- (c) the estimated number of autorickshaws and cars running on LPG cylinders in Karnataka; and
- (d) the number of Autogas Stations which are proposed to be opened soon in Karnataka to cater to the demands of vehicle users?

## Adulteration cases involving petrol pumps

- †2056. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the Prevention of Adulteration Cell under his Ministry eighty per cent petrol pumps located in North India are involved in some kind of muddle in which adulteration, short measuring and supply of low quality lubricants are included:
- (b) if so, the action Government have taken against such petrol pump dealers; and
- (c) the details of efforts Government have made to prevent such kind of muddles?

# Enquiry on functioning of petrol pumps

- †2057. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the functioning of petrol pumps as per the news-item which appeared in the Dainik Jagran, dated the 24th of August, 2002;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the percentage of petrol pumps found guilty of less measurement and adulteration in petrol; and
- (c) the action taken by Government in this regard so far?

## Research on bio-diesel

2058. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether research on bio-diesel as an efficient, clean and natural energy alternative fuel to petroleum has been successful;

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

- (b) if so, whether this diesel will be cheaper;
  - (c) if so, what will be its price;
- (d) whether Government propose to put it to use on a large scale; and
  - (e) if so, the details in this regard?

## Marketing of transport fuels by ONGC

2059. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ONGC has been permitted to market transport fuels through retail outlets in Andhra Pradesh;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether proposed retail outlet sites have been identified in the State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise:
- (e) whether ONGC also propose to market piped natural gas to households of the State; and
  - (f) if so, the details thereof?

## Sale of engine oil by petrol pumps

†2060. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity of engine oil sold by the Delhi based various companies at various petrol pumps from 1 January, 2002 to 15 November, 2002 alongwith its total value separately;
- (b) whether it is a fact that oil companies put illegal pressure on pump dealers to lift engine oil;
  - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether a survey has been conducted to assess the quantity of engine oil given by the companies to the pumps

and the quantity of oil sold by the dealers in the market during that period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### FDI in oil sector

2061. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Report of the Planning Commission recommended for 100 per cent FDI in the oil sector;
- (b) if so, the details of such recommendation;
- (c) whether Government have any plan to allow 100 per cent FDI in the oil sector; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Criteria for Octane test

- †2062. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the report of samples of petrol collected for Octane test in the empty bottles of Kerosene oil and glass/plastic bottles of wine will be treated as correct and credible according to chemical processes and scientific principles; and
- (b) the criteria laid down for temperature required for carrying the samples collected from petrol pumps to the laboratory?

## Demand and supply of oil

2063. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTER-JEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to

(a) the demand-supply position of oil for the last three years, year-wise;

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

- (b) the growth rate of demand-supply in three years, year-wise; and
- (c) the total amount of oil India produced domestically and the share of domestic production out of total oil requirement in the country?

#### LPG dealers in Uttar Pradesh

2064. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the locations in the State of Uttar Pradesh where LPG dealership and petrol pumps have been allotted during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and
- (b) the locations in Uttar Pradesh where LPG/Petrol Pumps dealership are likely to be allotted during the Tenth Plan?

#### LPG bottling plants

2065. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the location-wise details of LPG bottling plants which are functioning at present in the country with their production capacity, plant-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether Government propose to set up more bottling plants in the country during the Tenth Plan: and
- (c) if so, the location-wise details thereof and the amount of fund likely to be incurred during the current plan?

## New crude oil wells

2066. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new crude oil wells have been explored in the country recently;

- (b) if so, the details of location thereof and the assessment made regarding the quantity of crude oil expected to be found in those wells; and
- (c) the amount spent on the exploration of these oil wells?

#### **Exploration of gas in Tripura**

2067. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 714 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th November, 2002 and state:

- (a) the names of the spots in Tripura where drillings by ONGC have been fruitful;
- (b) the quantity of gas dischargeable everyday;
- (c) the quantity of gas discharged everyday at present for the purpose of use of the public; and
- (d) the plan Government would like to hit upon to utilise the dischargeable quantity of gas to the maximum possible extent?

#### Gas leakage at Mathura Oil Refinery

- †2068. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that an incident of gas leakage took place in Mathura Oil Refinery in the recent past;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the said oil refinery to present such leakages of gas; and
  - (d) if so, the details in this regard?

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

## LPG connections in Chhattisgarh

- †2069. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of LPG connections in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) what is the district-wise number of these connections:
- (c) the number of bottling plants to refill the same and what is the capacity of these plants; and
- (d) the details of action taken to provide proper facility of refilling in Chhattisgarh?

#### **International Energy Forum**

- 2070. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Eighth International Energy Forum was held at Osaka in Japan in September, 2002;
- (b) if so, the number of countries which participated; and
- (c) what decisions were taken at the meeting?

# Cancellation of allotment of petrol pumps/gas agencies

- 2071. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of allotment of petrol pumps, kerosene and LP Gas dealerships in different States and Union Territories, made during 2000 onwards, cancelled under Prime Minister's order:

- (b) the cases in which infrastructure was to be provided by the PSUs concerned and the investment actually made by them so far indicating the stage of development in each case; and
- (c) the cases in which stay against the orders of Prime Minister has been granted by the courts?

## New gas policy

- 2072. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) by when, the Ministry is going to bring new gas policy before Parliament for its consideration;
- (b) whether it is a fact that under the proposed new gas policy CNG is going to become cheaper;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the cheap CNG is proposed to be sold only to fertilizer industry; and
  - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### Renovation of BRPL

2073. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for not renovating Bongaigaon Refinery to produce high quality diesel;
- (b) whether Government have decided not to install new better machinery in Bongaigaon Refinery for the purpose; and
- (c) whether new machineries have been installed in Digboi, Guwahati and Numaligarh Refineries for achieving this purpose?

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

## Quality control in public sector refineries

2074. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various steps taken by Government to improve the quality of diesel, petrol and other products produced by the public sector refineries have achieved the desired results:
- (b) whether there is any plan for bringing further improvements in quality; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

## Basic amenities at Mehar Ki Devi Temple in Satna, M.P.

†2075. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pilgrims visiting the Mehar Ki Devi, a religious place of Hindus situated in Satna have to face the problems of roads, electricity, water and accommodation and whether the Government can take over the temple with a view to take the responsibilities of making all the arrangements; and
- (b) what are the barriers before the Central Government in way of taking over the temple of Mehar Ki Devi because it is one of the famous pilgrimages in Northern India?

#### Outcome of the meeting of World Tourism Mart

2076. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: SHRIT. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

- (a) whether a meeting of World Tourism Mart was held in the country in November, 2002:
- (b) if so, whether a total of 84 Indian exhibitors attended this meeting;
- (c) if so, what are the names of other countries that participated in the meeting;
- (d) whether this year, more than double delegates and countries participated in the meeting; and
- (e) if so, to what extent the decisions taken will help to improve the tourist traffic in India and also in the world?

## Tourist guide training on spiritual aspect of Majuli Island

2077. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken or proposed to be taken for organizing a special tourist guide training on spiritual aspect of Majuli Island in collaboration with Government of
- (b) the action taken by Government to preserve the heritage properties maintained in the Satra Institutions of Assam;
- (c) whether any survey has been made on the Archaeological sites or properties in the Majuli Island of Assam;
- (d) if so, the list of properties/sites identified; and
- (e)if not, by when it is likely to be completed?

## MoU with U.P.

2078. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign MoU with other States particularly Tamil Nadu on the lines of signing MoU with Uttar Pradesh;

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

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the details of the development of tourism made in Tamil Nadu and other States of the country?

## Financial assistance for tourism sector in Assam

2079. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the projects and financial assistance sanctioned, released and utilised for development of tourism sector during the last three years in the State of Assam;
- (b) the details of achievements made so far in this regard; and
- (c) what are the new projects formulated for the development in the State?

## Development of Tourism Circuits in Orissa

2080. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have prepared a new scheme to identify tourism circuits across the country and develop them to international standards;
- (b) if so, the details of tourism circuits identified so far in Orissa for development;
- (c) by when, work on the identified circuits is likely to start?

#### Development of tourism in Arunachal Pradesh

2081. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps being taken by Government to develop tourism in the State of Arunachal Pradesh like other States;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **New Tourist Spots**

2082. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) what steps have been taken to increase India's share in the World tourist traffic; and
- (b) the new tourist spots identified in various States to attract tourist traffic?

#### Casino in tourist places

†2083. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of casino set up in tourist places in India;
- (b) the names of places where these are situated;
- (c) the rules under which the permission to run these casinos have been granted; and
- (d) the details of action being taken on the increase in the number of these casinos or the action taken to ban these?

# Upkeep of monuments by private players

2084. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ASI has refused to comply with the decision of Government which allows private players, NGOs and corporate players for repair, upkeep and maintenance of old monuments;

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

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for such a decision by the ASI?

## Illumination of Qutab Complex

2085. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Qutab Minar, a great tourist attraction of Delhi has of late been lying neglected without electricity far from being illuminated with flood lights and rows of bulbs as reported in The Statesman of 11th September, 2002;
  - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is being maintained by the Archeological Survey of India and if so, the reasons for not illuminating the Qutab Complex as a tourist attraction; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred for annual maintenance thereof during the last three years and the provision made for the purpose during 2002-2003?

#### Reduction in water-supply by Bhakra Beas Management Board

2086. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bhakra Beas Management Board has announced reduction in water supply share for Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab, with Rajasthan being the worst hit State till next Monsoon and whether Rajasthan will be left with water hardly sufficient only for drinking;
- (b) the normal and reduced shares of each State and the reasons and rationale or calculation of the reduced quota indicating

the reduction in water level in Bhakra and Pong Dams which have necessitated the cut in water supply; and

(c) what steps, are being taken to augment the water supply especially that to Rajasthan?

### Expert-Study on Ganga-Cauvery link Project

2087 SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of times various study groups of experts have studied the Ganga-Cauvery Link Project with decisions taken on their reports;
- (b) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has again brought up this project to the fore and has requested Government to take this project to solve the problem of drought and floods in various parts of the country; and
- (c) what is Government's response in this regard?

## World Bank assistance for Narmada Ghati Vikas Yojana

†2088. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a decision was taken by World Bank to provide assistance for Sardar Sarovar and Narmada Ghati Vikas Yojana alongwith the amount of assistance to be given;
  - (b) the terms and conditions thereof;
- (c) the amount released so far in this regard; and
- (d) the present status regarding release of such assistance?

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

# World Bank aided irrigation schemes in NE Region

2089. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of irrigation schemes and programmes in Nagaland and other States of North-East Region for which World Bank and other International Agencies sanctioned and granted financial aid during the last three years; and
- (b) the details of such grants spent on the schemes; if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Cultivated land in various States

2090. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total hectare of land cultivated under the Cauvery Delta in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry; and
- (b) whether it has come to notice of Central Government that certain States have increased the acreage of land if so, the details of such increase, State-wise?

### Review of rain water harvesting

2091. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have still not thought of constituting a national level Committee that would overlook the possibilities of rain water harvesting in the country;
  - (b) if so, whether Government intend

of doing so in the near future and the details for the same thereby; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

# Funds allocated for improvement of drainage system in Orissa

2092. SHRIMATI SUSHREE DEVI: SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that coastal areas of Mahanadi Delta system and coastal belt of Balasore and Bhadrak Districts in Orissa suffer from drainage and water logging problems;
- (b) whether four proposals costing Rs. 1300.29 lakh for improvement of drainage etc. for Balasore district have been submitted to Government in June 2002, for providing necessary funds for the works; and
  - (c) if so, the present status thereof?

# Development of National Irrigation potential

2093. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are many disputes between upper and lower riverine States and the States and Centre on the other hand;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken in detail to resolve the dispute;
- (d) whether there is any attempt to restructure the Central Water institutions for developing national irrigation potential; and
  - (e) if so, the details thereof?

## Supply of water to Rajasthan through Indira Gandhi Canal

2094. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a breach by the BBMB for the quantity of water to be supplied to Rajasthan through the Indira Gandhi Canal:
- (b) if so, the details of the quantity that was fixed by BBMB for the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan; and
- (c) whether Government are planning to regularize the quantity of water supplied, or work out on the percentage of water to be supplied in case of shortage of water?

## Non-release of Cauvery Water to Tamil Nadu

2095. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Karnataka Government wilfully defied the order of the Supreme Court to release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether a contempt case filed against Karnataka Government by Tamil Nadu Government is still pending with Supreme Court;
- (c) whether Karnataka's action led to an extraordinary situation of how to deal with an erring executive by the judiciary; and
- (d) whether Centre is taking steps to see such piquant situation does not arise in future?

#### Sardar Sarovar Project

2096. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the amount of share for construction of Sardar Sarovar Project has not been paid by the Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan to the Government of Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the net amount of share to be paid by these Governments separately;
  - (c) the reasons for non-payment; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Central Government in order to emphasise these Governments to pay their respective share to the Government of Gujarat?

# Completion of irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh

†2097. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of irrigation projects pending in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh alongwith the details of progress in this regard;
- (b) the number of irrigation schemes (large and small) started during each of five year plans and the details of initial cost alongwith the details of the cost at the completion of these schemes; and
- (c) the reasons of delay in irrigation projects?

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

## Dangerous dams on Madhya Pradesh

- †2098. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether 110 dams in Madhya Pradesh are in dangerous condition and 30 crore rupees are likely to be spent on their repair which is a great challenge before the State Government;
- (b) whether Government are taking any steps to avoid the loss of property and lives before the occurrence of any incident; and
- (c) whether Government are contemplating to provide some financial assistance to the State Government to rejuvenate such dangerous dams on humanitarian ground?

New Delhi;

The 3rd December, 2002

Agrahayana 12, 1924 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN, Secretary-General.

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

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