

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the May 11, 2006/Vaisakha 21, 1928 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Atomic Energy; Coal; Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Information and Broadcasting; Overseas Indian Affairs; Panchayati Raj; Parliamentary Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Urban Development; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions — 155

Long term energy security

2711. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently formulated a nuclear power programme to provide long-term energy security to the country based on the indigenous nuclear fuel resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage at which it stands at present?

Reserves of uranium in Orissa

†2712. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI MANGANI LAL
MANDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge reserve of uranium has been discovered in the

Vemlagarh and Sayamba region of the Sundargarh district of Orissa;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a team of the scientists is making efforts to discover and calculate the availability of the huge potential of uranium reserve; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Criteria for setting up of Nuclear Power Plants

2713. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for setting up Nuclear Power Plants;

(b) the States which have requested the Central Government to set up such plants; and

(c) the action taken by Government in each case?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Availability of thorium

2714. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of thorium used in the nuclear reactors in the country out of the total nuclear fuel;

(b) the potential availability of thorium in the country as nuclear fuel; and

(c) the steps taken to increase use of thorium to avoid dependence on uranium import?

Preservation of fruits in Jammu and Kashmir

2715. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has developed a technique of long lasting preservation of fruits;

(b) if so, whether this technique has been tried in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Production of coal

†2716. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries have carried out more production of coal in the year 2005-06 than 2004-05;

(b) if so, the quantity of coal produced by the both during the above period, separately; and

(c) the turnover of the coal producing units during the above period?

Private investment in coal sector

†2717. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to allow the private sector for making capital investment in the coal sector;

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

(c) by when this decision is likely to be implemented?

Sliding work force in coal sector

2718. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY:
Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work force in coal industry is sliding gradually;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what has been the per employee production in coal industry during the last five years, year-wise?

Profits and dividends from CIL and other subsidiaries

†2719. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited (CIL) and other subsidiary coal producing units are expected to earn a profit of Rs. 7000 crores during 2005-06;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if not, the estimate in this regard;
- (c) whether the said amount of dividend is higher than last year's dividend; and
- (d) if so, the extent thereof?

Commonwealth Games

2720. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major steps taken for the hosting of Commonwealth Games in New Delhi;
- (b) whether we have made efforts or proposed to take measures to train our sportspersons to perform extraordinary in Commonwealth Games in North Delhi;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Handing over of captive coal mines to private companies

†2721. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the purpose of handing over captive coal mines to the private companies;
- (b) the date of handing over the captive coal mine to the WCL based Central Collieries company, year-wise, the quantity of coal extracted/produced from the said mine alongwith the market value of the same;
- (c) whether the Central Collieries company has sold this coal in open market;
- (d) whether the said company has not generated even a single unit of electricity from this coal; and
- (e) if not, the action being taken by Government against the company for selling the coal in the market?

Captive coal mines under SECL

†2722. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of captive coal mines allotted under S.E.C.L. indicating the names of the companies alongwith the name of mines so allotted;
- (b) whether these companies also sell their coal to other companies besides their internal use;
- (c) if so, the details of the companies to whom this coal was sold during the last five years alongwith the quantum of coal sold and its value and rate in each case; and
- (d) the detail of Government's policy in this regard?

Utilization of USO funds

2723. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than half of the money (Rs. 7,000 crore out of Rs. 10,753) that telecom consumers pay for creation of rural telephony infrastructure is lying unused in Government coffers;
- (b) whether the finance Ministry is to be blamed for this under-utilisation of funds as it controls the Universal Service Obligation (USO) fund collected; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make maximum utilization of USO fund?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Shortfall of coal from indigenous sources

2724. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortfall of coal from the indigenous sources has been increasing every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken thereon;

(c) whether there is any initiative to use judiciously this non-renewable indigenous source of coal in the country and to find environment friendly alternative source of energy in place of coal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Coal accumulation in Jharkhand

†2725. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy stock of coal has accumulated at the pit head of three coal companies namely, CCL, BCCL and ECL situated in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

Regulatory Commissions for Coal and Telecommunications

†2726. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any regulatory Commission is likely to be constituted for coal also on the lines of the similar commission constituted for Power and Telecommunication, so that, interests of the consumers are protected; and

(b) if so, by when?

Setting up of kiosks under Saksham project

2727. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J.PANDA:

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

(a) whether the Microsoft Corporation has announced their rural initiative "Saksham" under which the company would partner with NGOs to roll out 50,000 kiosks over the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of such kiosks which are proposed to be set up in Orissa with the Central assistance?

Disbursal of USO Fund for rural telephony

2728. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have expressed dissatisfaction at slow progress of the disbursal of Universal Service Obligation Fund for rural telephony;

(b) whether it is a fact that the scheme is taking too long to reach the take off stage and the slow progress of disbursal is harming Government's plan to ensure 200 million mobile subscribers by the year 2007; and

(c) if so, the efforts Government propose to make to ensure the scheme is implemented expeditiously?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Cost of money orders

2729. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to reduce the existing cost of money orders;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to make the system of money orders speedy, efficient and economical;

(c) the steps taken by Government during the last six months to make money orders commercially viable and attractive to the public;

(d) whether any tie-ups with banks has been mooted by the post offices; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps proposed in this regard?

Participation of foreign mobile companies

†2730. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards increasing participation of domestic mobile companies with the foreign mobile companies;

(b) if so, the names of those companies which have a participation with the foreign companies;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards direct or indirect danger to the country's security due to increasing participation of foreign companies; and

(d) if so, the preventive steps being taken in this regard?

Shortage of software and hardware engineers

2731. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of software and hardware engineers in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the actual requirement of software and hardware engineers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of engineers coming out of professional colleges in each State as on date; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure all of them are absorbed within the country?

Withdrawal of notices by VSNL

2732. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the VSNL had issued notices on 2nd March, 2006 to some MNCs and foreign carriers for the termination of remote access connectivity and DoT had to ask VSNL to withdraw the same;

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

(c) whether all the notices have been withdrawn by VSNL; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sales Tax on telecom services

2733. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon. Supreme Court has held that the States can't impose sales tax on telecom services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its impact on the proposed budgeted revenue for the financial year 2006-07?

Printing of BSNL telephone directories

†2734. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the responsibility to print and distribute the telephone directories rests with the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and these directories should be printed and distributed to the subscribers every year;

(b) whether it is a fact that directories have not been distributed in several divisions for the last 5-6 years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Jaipur district has not got the directories printed so far; and

(d) whether any action would be taken against the District Officers of the Corporation for this negligence?

Software Technology Park in Bihar

†2735. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Bihar has handed over three acres of land and Rupees one crore to the Centre under an agreement to construct a Software Technology Park in the State;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this scheme; and

(c) whether the State Government has recently approached the Centre in this regard?

Telephone connectivity in villages of H.P.

2736. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the telecom density in the rural areas in the country with particular reference to the hilly areas like Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to connect more villages and provide telecom facilities to every village in Himachal Pradesh?

Disinvestment of BSNL

2737. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to sell a portion of its share in BSNL; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Technology Park in Tamil Nadu

2738. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for setting up Technology Parks in Tamil Nadu have been received during the financial year 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken there on?

Installation of telecom microwave transmitters in Tamil Nadu

2739. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the telecommunication microwave transmitters set up in Tamil Nadu during the last two years;

(b) the details of the funds sanctioned and released to the State for the purpose during the above period; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for installation of more transmitters during the next two years?

Telephonic complaints in Modi Nagar

2740. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that telephones under Modi Nagar (U.P.) Exchange, remain out of order for months together despite complaints made even to the Senior Officers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that many officials of the department are at the same station for more than three years;

(d) the details of telephone complaints received particularly from Modi Colony during the last six months together with the steps taken to attend them; and

(e) if not, the action Government propose to take against the erring officials?

Amendment of Shop and Establishment Act, 1961

2741. SHRI CHITTABRATA

MAJUMDAR:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

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

(a) whether his Ministry is taking steps to amend the provisions of the Shops and Establishment Act, 1961 to permit flexible working hours in the IT sector industries;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Labour and/or the Central Trade Union Organizations have been consulted in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Regulation of post delivery through couriers

2742. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any law to regulate the delivery of courier post by private carriers or the Government Post Office;

(b) whether it is a fact that courier post

is being delivered at residence with great harassment to the general public;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the carrier messengers insist that the recipients personally sign receipt of such letters and they are also disturbed regularly, frequently without any impediment;

(d) what steps Government would take to ensure that courier letters need not be personally received at residence by the addressee if he does not want such delivery; and

(e) the reasons for Government ignoring this problem?

Agreements in the energy sector

2743. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made agreements with various countries, particularly U.S.A., Russia and France for the further co-operation and development in the Energy sector during the last six months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the countries with whom the agreements were entered into alongwith the details of each agreement in the field of Energy Sector?

Indian Medical practitioners in U.K.

2744. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Medical practitioners who had gone to U.K. in search of job, have been leading a miserable life on account of unemployment and most of them daily

reach the Mahalaxmi temple in east London to eat free food; and

(b) whether Government have made any assessment about the number of medical practitioners stranded in London and if so, the details thereof and what steps would be taken by Government for their repatriation?

Relaxation of visa regime

2745. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS
KAUR:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether relaxation of the visa regime between Indian and Pakistan has been high on the agenda of the talks at the Secretaries level, under the composite dialogue process;

(b) if so, whether talks have since been held on the subject, if so, what proposals were discussed on the subject; and

(c) the outcome thereof, and the steps since taken by the two countries in the light of such discussions?

Destruction of terrorists training camps

†2746. DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the terrorist training camps located across the border were destroyed automatically due to the earthquake that had occurred in the Jammu and Kashmir region recently;

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that these camps have been re-established after about three months and have become active again; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and whether in this context America has also urged upon Pakistan to check these camps?

Indo-American nuclear treaty

†2747. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of recently concluded Indo-American Nuclear Treaty, America has urged India to discontinue its nuclear tests in future;

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

(c) Government's policy to impose ban on its nuclear tests in future?

Indian labourers abandoned by their employers

2748. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of plight of Indian labourers in various construction sites in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) abandoned by their employers without settling their long outstanding wages;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the steps taken, if any to protect the interest of Indian workers employed in

construction and other enterprises on UAE and in other gulf countries from exploitation, abuse and violation of contractual obligations by their employers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reason therefor?

Questionnaire from UN Committee

2749. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any questionnaire was received from the United Nations Committee on counter terrorism following the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the USA enquiring about the measures being pursued in India to strengthen anti-terrorist measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the measures under implementation and contemplated by Government especially in pursuance of the Security Council Resolution No. 1373;

(d) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs also coordinated in formulation of the said questionnaire; and

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

Incidents of fake visas

†2750. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of sending Indians abroad on fake visa are taking place continuously;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government so far to check it and the decline registered as a result thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken by Government to save the people from getting trapped in fake visa racket?

Role of Hurriyat Conference in negotiations between India and Pak

2751. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the All Party Hurriyat Conference in the ongoing negotiations on Jammu and Kashmir between India and Pakistan; and

(b) the role of the elected representatives of Jammu and Kashmir in these negotiations?

US mission

2752. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US propose to open more missions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent these new missions have helped to meet the increasing commercial, educational and cultural interaction demands?

Capacity to issue visas

2753. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps Government are taking to strengthen the capacity to issue visas in different Indian embassies in the world; and

(b) if, the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

Officers discharged from IFS

2754. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers that have been discharged from the Indian Foreign Service during the years 1999-2005 on the basis of recommendation of the Vigilance Division of his Ministry;

(b) whether any investigation/inquiry was held by the Vigilance Division in respect of such officers into any of the misconduct alleged against them;

(c) what were the findings/conclusions of such investigation/inquiry in case of each such officer; and

(d) if no investigation/inquiry has been held and no findings were arrived at against any of such officers, then on what basis such officers have been discharged from the service?

Exchanging lists of nuclear installation

2755. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan exchanged lists of their nuclear installations in January, 2006 under an agreement that prohibits Islamabad and New Delhi for attacking each others nuclear facilities, while cross border terrorism from Pakistan continues unabated;

(b) if so, in what manner it would help India closing ranks with Pakistan, and strengthening mutual ties between the two countries; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to enter into similar understandings with other neighbouring countries, if so, the details in this regard?

Non-receipt of payments for Military equipments supplied to Nepal

‡2756. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a payment of about 2.64 crore dollars for providing military equipments to the Nepalese Army has not been made to more than 20 Indian companies even after a lapse of 18 months; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government to recover the money from the Government of Nepal?

Overstaying by foreigners

2757. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visas issued to the foreigners to visit India during the last one year;

(b) the number of cases that have been reported regarding the foreigners' overstay in the country after the expiry date endorsed in their visas; and

(c) the action taken by Government in these overstay cases?

Setting up of Atomic Parks

2758. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in relation to the recent US-India civilian nuclear deal, Government are thinking of setting up an 'Atomic Park' to augment nuclear power generation capacity at a fast pace;

(b) whether the Prime Minister has also initiated the ground work on the proposal;

(c) whether the sole nuclear power producers have been sounded out on the plans to have such designated site for harnessing nuclear generation in the country; and

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

Draft proposal send by US

2759. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the draft proposal sent by the United States contains that co-operation would be discontinued if India were to conduct a nuclear test;

(b) if so, whether Government had objected to it; and

(c) the response received by Government from the U.S. regarding India's objection to the said clause?

Supply of Uranium by France

2760. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that France had agreed to supply uranium to India only after Nuclear Supplied Group (NSG) gives its green signal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to convince NSG to support India's cause; and

(d) the response received by Government in this regard?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

SAARC meet in Dhaka

2761. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister attended the SAARC meet in Dhaka in November last;

(b) if so, what decisions were taken thereat on the issue of terrorism, protection of Inter-SAARC investments;

(c) what other resolutions were adopted at the Summit; and

(d) the steps taken and being taken by Government in the light thereof?

Agreements signed with USA

†2762. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agreement with the United States of America signed on the use of atomic energy; and

(b) whether this agreement would not adversely affect the security system of the country?

Trans-Asia Railway Link

2763. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the representatives from seven Asian countries including India had earlier discussed setting up of a Trans-Asian Railway Link between India and Vietnam, passing through other countries including Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details of the outcome of the discussions;

(c) the details of any other proposal to set up an international railway line;

(d) if no such proposal exists, whether Government would consider setting up such a railway link; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Peace proposals with Pakistan

2764. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently put forward any peace proposals, while he was in Amritsar, to the President of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Prime Minister proposes to visit Pakistan in the near future with the reported proposals to discuss Siachen, Sir Creek and Baglihar, the issues, which he thinks can be solved?

Respect to Indian Tricolour in Pakistan

2765. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that during ODI game at Peshawar the Pakistan Government have failed to show the respect towards Indian Tricolour by printing Indian flag on tickets upside down;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Indian Tricolour was being flown upside down at the hotel where Indian team was staying; if so whether Government have taken action in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Opening of Consulates in Mumbai and Karachi

2766. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consulates of India and Pakistan have been opened at Mumbai and Karachi;

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

(c) by when the Consulates are expected to be opened?

Subsidy for Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimage

†2767. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the amount charged from the pilgrims going for Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimage is being increased continuously;

(b) whether Government would also consider providing any subsidy on the lines of subsidy being provided for Haj Pilgrimage in order to check this increase; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Return of Taliban in Afghanistan

2768. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are monitoring the reported return of Taliban elements in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the country participated in the recent meeting in London on the reconstruction of Afghanistan;

(d) if not, the reason therefor;

(e) whether Government have ascertained the conclusions of the said meeting; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Committee for monitoring T.V. Channels

2769. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a Committee for suggesting ways for monitoring television channels;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the follow up action taken by Government thereon?

Copy right violations

2770. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rampant violation of copy rights of films by releasing fake and duplicate cassettes; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check the crime?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Production of patriotic films

†2771. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of patriotic films has been reduced considerably in the country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of patriotic films produced and broadcast by Doordarshan during the last three years till today; and

(d) whether Government propose to promote production of such films and put a check on production of action movies in future?

LPT in Shimla

2772 SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPT installed at Chirgaon in Shimla district does not cover people of five panchayats *i.e.* Ransar valley;

(b) whether despite repeated requests made by the local authorities/local MPs in the matter, their pleas have been ignored;

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

(d) whether Government propose to cover people in Ransar valley by either upgrading the LPT installed in Chirgaon VLPT or by installing a new LPT in Sundryali near Amboi Village in Shimla district;

(e) if so, by when the same would be implemented; and

(f) if not, the reasons there for?

Migration to western countries

2773. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Migration of Indian to western countries increased after 1995;

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

(c) which are the popular destinations for Indian Migrants and the number of migrants from 2000 to 2005?

Practices by manpower exporting agencies

2774. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of bogus manpower exporting agencies duping innocent job seekers abroad;

(b) if so, the steps taken to monitor these agencies; and

(c) whether Government would put in place a mechanism to have tight vigil on such agencies operating in the country to protect interests of the job seekers?

Indian labourers in Dubai

†2775. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-resident Indian labourers engaged in the construction of Boorj Dubai Tower have stopped construction work in protest of low wages and misbehaviour during past days;

(b) whether Government have ordered any inquiry in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details of the information available with Government in this regard and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Harassment of Indian women abroad

2776 . SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing number of complaints of ill treatment and harassment meted out to Indian women living abroad;

(b) if so, the nature of ill-treatment and harassment which are being meted out;

(c) whether Government have taken any action to check such incidents in future; and

(d) the countries where Indian women are facing ill-treatment and harassment?

Indians going abroad for work

2777. SHRI S.S.CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of Indians going abroad for work each year, both skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers, separately;

(b) the services provided by Government both in India and abroad for the safety and security of the Indian workers going abroad/ working abroad; and

(c) the steps being taken to protect Indian job seekers from dubious agencies in India and abroad?

Strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions

†2778. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any scheme to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions;

(b) if so, the comprehensive details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also considering to provide any special financial assistance to the States for this purpose; and

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

Three-tier Panchayati Raj System

†2779 SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the States where three-tier elected Panchayati Raj System has not been implemented as on the 31st January, 2006;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the action proposed to be taken against these States; and

(d) the details of the action taken for implementation of three tier Panchayati Raj System?

District Panchayat Administrative Service

2780. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to create a new cadre of bureaucrats as district Panchayat Administrative Service for effective implementation of the developmental programmes in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of the duties and responsibilities of the proposed cadre and their role *vis-a-vis* Centre and States;

(c) whether any special role envisaged for the cadre in the naxalite infested States; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Government's permission for prosecuting Public servants in corruption cases;

Administrative and financial powers for Panchayati Raj Institutions

†2781. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to arm Panchayati Raj institutions with administrative and financial powers;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain State Governments have not taken appropriate measures for streamlining and empowering Panchayati Raj institutions; and

(c) if so, the details of Government's schemes to encourage rural development through Panchayati Raj institutions as was envisaged by Gandhiji?

(b) the cases out of them which are pending for more than one year;

(c) whether Government realize that long delays in sanctioning prosecution would often result in defeating the objectives of fighting corruption among public servants; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to expedite disposal of pending cases?

Functioning of Central Information Commissioners

2784. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the four Central Information Commissioners, as mandated by the Right to Information Act are based in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the system of disposal of the appeal, since the appellant cannot afford to keep making visits to Delhi, if the hearings are postponed; and

(d) the number of cases received and disposed by these Commissioners till date?

Steps for development of Panchayati Raj

2782. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether any major steps have been taken for further development of Panchayati Raj system in the country in the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Prosecution of public servants

2783. DR. BIMAL JALAN:
DR. P.C. ALEXANDER:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases that are awaiting

Lack of need based services

2785. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in most need based services like police, judiciary and municipalities, not even twenty per cent

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

citizens are satisfied with their services and similar is the case with the essential services like Public Distribution System (PDS), hospitals, electricity and water supplies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the low quality of services is due to poor and outdated systems; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve delivery of services to citizens?

Foreign visit by members of Administrative Reforms Commission

2786. DR. P.C. ALEXANDER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 2 crores out of a budget of Rs 8.5 crores for the year 2006-07 has been earmarked for foreign visits by the Chairman and members of the Administrative Reforms Commission to study the administrative set up and reforms undertaken in various countries; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider that such visits are necessary for the tasks entrusted to the Commission particularly keeping in view the instructions issued by the Prime Minister about utmost economy in expenditure on foreign travels?

Settling of Public Grievances

†2787. DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one thousand Grievances are finally settled out of the total public Grievances received every year;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that have actually been finally settled during

the last three years; and

(c) the number and the details of cases belonging to Chhattisgarh that have been settled?

Annual Direct Recruitment Plan

2788. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 2001, a scheme known as Annual Direct Recruitment Plan Scheme was introduced by Government for compliance by all Central Government Offices;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the ADRP Scheme was effective for a period of five years, *i.e.* upto the 31st March, 2006;

(c) if so, whether any instructions have been issued by DOP&T regarding filling up of the vacancies arising after the 31st March, 2006;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the manner in which such vacancies are to be filled up?

Corruption in bureaucracy

†2789. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there being no provision for accountability amongst the Indian bureaucrats, corruption and negligence are on the increase;

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

(c) the efforts taken by Government to instill a feeling of accountability amongst the bureaucrats?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Facilities given by MNCs

†2790. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that handsome pay, attractive perks and promotion avenues by the multinational companies, foreign agencies and private companies, are adversely affecting morale of the Central Government officers and employees;

(b) if so; whether efficient officers and employees are leaving Government jobs;

(c) whether Government have taken a decision to constitute the sixth Pay Commission; if so, by when it would be constituted; and

(d) whether Government would instruct the proposed Pay Commission to consider making pay, promotions, and facilities attractive to retain competitiveness and quality amongst its employees?

Status of Volkswagen Case

2791. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Volkswagen case being handled by CBI in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the CBI is hopeful of coming out with another major breakthrough soon;

(c) if so, the efforts being made by Government in this regard;

(d) the evidence so collected from the foreign country so far; and

(e) the likely date of completing the case?

Parallel health insurance scheme

2792. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a parallel health insurance scheme for both retired and serving Central Government Servants across the Country; and

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

Reservation in jobs for SC/ST/OBC

2793. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given a commitment to enforce policy of reservation of jobs for the SC/ST and OBC;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a Group of Ministers (GoM) was constituted to examine *inter alia* the potential means of enforcing said reservation policy;

(d) if so, whether recommendations of the said GoM have since been received;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps contemplated, if any, by Government on the basis of the GoM recommendation?

Cases filed under Prevention of Corruption Act

2794. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases filed in various States against persons possessions disproportionate assets/income since that

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

prevention of corruption Act, 1988 came into force;

(b) the number of persons convicted since then State-wise;

(c) the number of Government servants, both Central and State Governments convicted under the Act;

(d) the number of other public servants convicted; and

(e) the details thereof?

Tripling of FDI

2795. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission was working towards a policy which would help tripling the Foreign Direct Investment in the country over the next few years;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has also been finalizing a draft approach paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan i.e. 2007-12;

(c) if so, whether the Planning Commission is planning to clarify and streamline many existing caps on FDI;

(d) whether many foreign investors have complained that there are certain existing caps on FDI, which need to be looked after; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken by the Planning Commission to remove such hurdles?

BPL people in Orissa

2796. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 260

million of the people are still below poverty line, the highest number being in Orissa, as per the country's first social development report; and

(b) if so, what is Government's action plan to help the cash-strapped State to improve its social development sector to control the high rate of BPL in the State?

First Social Development Report

†2797. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the first social development report more than 260 million people in the country are living below the poverty line; and

(b) if so, the number thereof and the assessment with regard to their average monthly income, State-wise?

Bharat Nirman Programme in Punjab

2798. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Nirman Programme has been launched in Punjab;

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose and released; and

(c) the target fixed for the financial year 2006-07?

The Infrastructure Regulatory Framework Act

2799. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring forward the Infrastructure Regulatory

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Framework Act to lay down the broad guidelines for setting up of independent regulatory bodies for different infrastructure sectors;

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

Growth rate of GDP

2800. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a year-on-year growth rate of 8 to 10 per cent in GDP is being targeted;
- (b) if so, the details of the sectors of the economy expected to contribute thereto most and in what manner;
- (c) the broad relation between GDP growth rate and poverty alleviation in the context of Indian economy;
- (d) in what manner the targeted growth rate can be achieved in the present political scenario; and
- (e) its proposed impact on alleviation of poverty?

Private investments in Inland Water Transport System

2801. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to develop the Inland Water Transport System in the country and whether any sanction has been sought by the Government of Kerala to implement any project to develop the inland water transport facilities in the State and if so, the details thereof;

- (b) whether any proposals to attract

private investment in this sector are pending; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the length of inland water ways in Kerala which is navigable by mechanically propelled vessels and the stretch which requires renovation for transport facilities?

Payment of Provident Fund to Seafarers

2802. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRIMATI SYEDA
ANWARA TAIMUR:

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

- (a) whether Government have taken any decision on the Seafarers' demand for settlement of Rs. 92.73 crores of their Provident Fund money that got lost in a scam four years ago;
- (b) whether a court had asked Government to come out with its answer on the demand of Seafarers' union by the 16th January, 2006; and
- (c) whether Government had earlier committed to one-time payment of SPF money and if so, the details thereof?

Development of ports in Orissa

2803. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a Centrally sponsored scheme for promotion of coastal shipping;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to develop minor ports to take over the load of container traffic of major ports; and

(d) if so, the details of the minor ports that are proposed to be developed along Orissa coast for the purpose?

International container trans-shipment terminal

2804. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese consortium proposes to develop the international container trans-shipment terminal at Vizhinjam in Kerala;

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

(c) the time-frame within which it would become functional;

(d) whether such kind of terminal is also proposed to be developed on the Orissa coast to improve the economy of this backward region; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Introduction of ferry service in Mumbai

†2805. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI SANTOSH
BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a ferry service in the sea in order to provide a relief to the citizens of Mumbai from the routine problems being faced by

them due to the population and limited road arrangements in the city;

(b) whether the State Government has submitted a proposal to the Central Government for introducing ferry service in the sea; and

(c) when this proposal was submitted and the decision taken or propose to be taken by the Government thereon?

Problems due to land acquisition at Kundali-Palwal Express way

2806. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that land acquisition has created problems for the 270 kls. Kundali-Palwal Expressway connecting NH 1, 2, 8, 10 and 71 B conceived more than three years ago as the project requires some of the most expensive real estate to be acquired in the entire region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to sort out the problem?

Construction of by-passes in Jaipur

†2807. SHRI SANTOSH
BAGRODIA:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that due to congestion of traffic on the National Highway by-passes are required all around the Jaipur city; and

(b) if so, by when Government would issue the sanction for construction of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of by-passes connecting Ajmer-Jaipur road (N.H. 8) to Jaipur-Tonk road (N.H.12), Tonk-Jaipur road (N.H. 12) to Jaipur-Agra road (N.H.11) and Agra-Jaipur road (N.H. 11) to Jaipur-Delhi road (N.H. 8);

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

Uniform driving licence

2808. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the Road Safety Forum for a uniform driving licence all over the country;

(b) the details of this representation;

(c) the steps proposed to examine this representation and implement this dire need;

(d) whether any clarifications were called for by Government; and

(e) the inhibition to Government to take up such ideas and implement them rapidly?

Movements of pedestrians on Delhi-Noida-Delhi flyover

†2809. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a ban on the movement of pedestrians and cyclists on the Delhi-Noida-Delhi flyover;

(b) whether any such orders have been issued;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the matter has been enquired into; if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) the details of the erring officials and the action taken against them?

Construction and development of National Highways

†2810. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set a target of investing one lakh eighty thousand crore rupees for constructing and developing National Highways and Golden Quadrilateral Roads with the view of infrastructural development;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work for construction of 6000 kilometre segment into four lane has been allocated in the names of contractors during the last financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and National Highway-wise?

Development of Vadinar Port

2811. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to develop Vadinar Port for the cargo other than oil cargo;

(b) if so, the status thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to form joint venture/SPU with

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Government of Gujarat/GMB for the purpose; and

(d) if so, what would be the modality?

Land acquisition by NHAI

2812. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with more than Rs. 3400 crores already spent on North-South and East-West corridors the land acquisition has been lagging behind in all the States;

(b) whether only about 14.90 per cent of the land requirement has so far been acquired by the NHAI with Andhra Pradesh recording the lowest acquisition share of 0.2 per cent; and

(c) whether the corridors projects are scheduled to be completed and commissioned by early 2008 and if so, whether Government would catch up with the deadline?

Separate MMD for fishing vessels

2813. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formed a task force to study the need to set up a separate Marine Mercantile Department (MMD) exclusively for the fishing vessels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the present structure of MMD has shown delays and lack of enthusiasm for the fishing sector; and

(d) the steps proposed to set up a separate MMD for the non-shipping sector?

Strengthening and widening of State/ National Highways

2814. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals of the State Governments requesting for the Central assistance for strengthening and widening of National Highways/State Highways are pending for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Upgradation of National Highways in North-Eastern Region

2815. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways newly sanctioned/constructed during the period from the 1st March, 2000 to 1st March, 2006 all over the country;

(b) the length of the same in the North-Eastern Region;

(c) the demands pending from the North-Eastern States for taking up new projects of NHs and for upgrading the existing ones; and

(d) the steps being taken to make up the backlog in NER in respect of roads and bridges?

**Funds allocation for Golden
Quadrilateral**

2816. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any road development map recently;

(b) if so, the details of such road projects prepared so far including the Golden Quadrilateral, the East-West Corridor and the North-South Corridor;

(c) whether Government had enhanced its funds allocation after converting the Golden Quadrilateral into a six-lane road.

(d) if so, the present position thereof;

(e) whether Government have also awarded 132 contracts amounting to Rs. 33,227 crore for four-laning 5,552 kms. under the National Highways Development Project recently; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the present status of construction work?

Projects for water transport in M.P.

†2817. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects proposed for water transport in Madhya Pradesh submitted to the Central Government by the State Government;

(b) the number of proposals out of the above which have already been cleared by Government and the work on inland water transport has started and the number of the proposals pending with Government; and

(c) by when the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

**Private participation in road
construction**

2818. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to hand over a major share of road construction projects to the private players; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with details of the terms and conditions governing such private participation?

Widening the roads in Andhra Pradesh

2819. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of unfinished road widening by NHAI in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the work to be done in Guntur district by NHAI;

(c) the reason for such delays;

(d) the work done during the financial year 2005-06 by NHAI in Guntur district; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by NHAI to ensure quality and time schedule?

Quality of roads

2820. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at certain places the road has already given way;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government have any system of quality control on the roads built by NHAI under the four laning scheme;

(c) the system Government possess to double check all such roads and their high engineering standards;

(d) whether it is also a fact that not enough emphasis is being given to high quality roads; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Construction of National Highways

†2821. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for the construction of National Highways have been submitted to the Central Government by the States especially NCT of Delhi during last three years;

(b) the details thereof as on date, State-wise;

(c) the present status thereof;

(d) the amount allocated for these proposals/schemes, year-wise; and

(e) by when the proposals under consideration would be sanctioned?

Development of Coastline and Ports in A.P.

†2822. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of major and minor Ports along the Andhra Pradesh Coastline;

(b) the amount allocated by Government

to the State for development of Coastline and Ports during the last five years;

(c) the details of the developmental work carried out by utilization of the amount allocated, major and minor ports-wise during the last five years; and

(d) the details of the future plans for coastal and ports development in the State?

Roads declared as NH in U.P.

†2823. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads declared as National Highways in Uttar Pradesh during the last financial year;

(b) the progress made so far on the said roads;

(c) whether construction work on the said roads is being completed within the scheduled timeframe; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action being taken to complete the same on time?

Construction of East West Corridor

2824. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction work of East West Corridor to connect Jaipur to Kanpur, which passes through thickly forest Shivpuri district in Northern Madhya Pradesh, was held up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the construction has since been again taken up by the contractor and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be completed?

New Road Policy

2825. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new Road Policy for development, expansion and maintenance of National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether National Highway No. 22 is covered in the policy;

(d) if so, whether Government have any proposal for widening/four laning of National Highway No. 22 beyond Ambala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the destination?

Funds allocated for Jammu and Kashmir

2826. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years, year-wise, under the Central Road Fund Schemes; and

(b) the major works done under the schemes?

Completion of Ambala-Zirakpur Highway

2827. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the land acquisition in respect of NH-22, the Ambala-Zirakpur is yet to be completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

Repayment of loans by National Highways Authority of India

2828. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has failed to pay back an Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan amounting to Rs. 1,800 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how much interest/penalty the NHAI would have to pay in respect of Rs. 1800 crores loan taken from ADB, for the delay;

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to repay it;

(e) whether ADB has downgraded the country's credit rate, in the wake of NHAI's default; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Contracts awarded by NHAI

2829. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India had awarded thirteen contracts in April last for second phase of the National Highway Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the financial allocation for each contract, the stretch of road to be constructed by each contractor and the present status of the work done in each case?

Four laning of NH-11, 12 and 14

2830. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan has decided for four-laning of NH-11 (Jaipur-Reengus-Sikar road section), NH-12 (Jaipur-Tonk-Kota-Jhalawar road section up to MP Border) & NH-14 (Beawar-Pali-Sirohi road section);

(b) if so, the progress made so far in each case; and

(c) by when, these National Highways would be four-laned?

ASTROSAT project

2831. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Canada is likely to collaborate with India's first astronomy satellite project called ASTROSAT;

(b) whether the satellite is expected to be in orbit by 2008; and

(c) the present status of the project?

Small satellites for atmospheric studies

2832. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have encouraged ISRO to launch small satellite missions to study the earth's atmosphere;

(b) by when ISRO would take up the new proposal called the Small Satellites for Atmosphere and Space Science for effective monitoring of earth's atmosphere to find solution to global warming and changing weather conditions; and

(c) whether the major focus of this mission would be to delineate the changes that are taking place in the atmosphere in the South Asian region?

National Statistical Commission

2833. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up the National Statistical Commission;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are thinking of merging the Central Statistical Organization and the National Sample Survey Organization; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Development projects

†2834. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the development projects launched during and before the Ninth Five Year Plan period which are proposed to be completed during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the projects completed by the end of March 2006 out of the above and the number of projects related to irrigation?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Contribution of cattle industry to GDP

†2835. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of cattle industry in Gross Domestic Product is increasing continuously;

(b) if so, the percentage thereof in the beginning and at the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the estimated number of people engaged in this sector, directly and indirectly?

MPLAD Scheme

2836. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether MPLADS is still useful and a popular scheme in the field despite the complaint of misuse by a few Members;

(b) what are the effective steps taken to avert the misuse if any, by a very few Members;

(c) whether a study has been made to assess the effect of the monitoring Committee on MPLADS, why it was not made effective but almost defunct; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there has been increasing demand and pressure for the increase of MPLADS grant per year and if so, whether it would not be considered favourably particularly when it is so popular and useful?

Demolition at MG road

2837. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi carried out demolition at 1 & 2 MG Road stating that they are unauthorized constructions; and

(b) if so, who were responsible for these illegal constructions?

Development of towns in AP under IDSMT

2838. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of towns in Andhra Pradesh identified for development under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) during the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated for development of each of these towns and utilisation thereof during the last three years, year-wise, indicating the details of the basic facilities developed in these cities; and

(c) the new towns of the State proposed to be brought under IDSMT scheme during the current year?

Improvement of housing and infrastructure facilities under JNNURM

2839. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cities have been identified in Andhra Pradesh under the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission for improving housing and infrastructure facilities like road, sanitation and drinking water;

(b) if so, the details of the cities so identified;

(c) whether any modalities have been worked out in consultation with the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Scheme to improve environmental conditions

2840. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any scheme to improve the environmental conditions in various cities of Maharashtra and Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work is yet to be commenced despite the approval given to some of the projects; and

(d) if so, the names of those cities where the work has not been commenced yet and the reasons therefor, State-wise?

Transforming Mumbai into Shanghai

†2841. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister have made an announcement regarding transforming Mumbai into Shanghai;

(b) if so, whether any blue print has been prepared for the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Ceiling of premises by MCD officials

2842. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to ceiling of premises by the MCD officials thousands of citizens become unemployed;

(b) if so, what are the steps Government are taking for their employment;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some vacant shops have also been sealed by the MCD officials; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Activities under JNNURM in Maharashtra

2843. RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details and current status of various activities currently underway under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government has approved city development plans involving outlay of funds from JNNURM for Pune and Nagpur; and

(c) if so, the details of the funds outlay proposed in this regard?

Construction of houses under NURM and IHSDP

2844. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of construction of houses under the National Urban Renewal

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Mission (NURM) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) in Karnataka is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details of the number of houses to be constructed, district-wise, under NURM/IHSDP guidelines-2005?

Migration from neighbouring States

2845. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 2.11 million people migrated to the Capital (NCT) during the decade 1991—2001;

(b) if so, how Government propose to ensure that migration to NCT is minimized as the infrastructure facilities in NCT can no longer take any additional population; and

(c) how far the NCR (National Capital Region) concept has been able to withhold the migration from the neighbouring States like U.P., Haryana and Punjab?

Metro rail projects

2846. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start Metro Rail Projects at Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the projects are likely to be given clearance?

Proposals for grant-in-aid

2847. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received by Government during the last three years from the different States for grants-in-aid for supply of drinking water, improvement of drainage system and development of slums, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of proposals are still pending for clearance;

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

(d) the details of the proposals cleared and the grants-in-aid sanctioned and released to each of the State during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

Violation of construction guidelines

2848. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether one view that has emerged is to protect need-based and not greed-based violation of rules/regulations/guidelines of bodies/authorities relating to construction and use of houses/flats in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have any mechanism to distinguish between need and greed-based violations in a fool-proof manner, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the solution lies in a reasonable dispensation in today's context, which is strictly applied on one and all uniformly; and

(d) what are Government's views in the matter?

Government accommodation near RML hospital

2849. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether at G-Point behind Dr. RML Hospital, Government condemned single

storied accommodation has been unauthorisedly occupied by private people;

(b) the magnitude of the unauthorized occupation and since when;

(c) the efforts made to evict the unauthorized occupants from time to time and the reasons for failure to succeed; and

(d) Government's plans to set right the position and the time-frame therefor?

Nanavati Commission Report

2850. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in releasing the Nanavati Commission Report on unauthorised colonies and constructions which was submitted to Government on 3rd September, 2005;

(b) the broad recommendations of the Report in the matter of regularization of unauthorized constructions;

(c) by when the report would be released and implemented; and

(d) whether the recommendations would be incorporated in the Master Plan 2021 for Delhi?

Urban development schemes in Rajasthan

2851. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented for urban development in Rajasthan;

(b) the allocations made for each scheme;

(c) the details of the cities and towns included in the scheme; and

(d) the targets set in respect of each scheme?

Funds for development of Rajasthan

2852. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated for development of cities in Rajasthan, during the last three years;

(b) the eligibility criteria for such allocation;

(c) whether the allocated funds have been fully utilized by the State Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved;

(e) whether any proposals from the State Government are still pending for consideration with the Centre; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the disposal?

Commonwealth games

2853. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi is likely to be connected with Metro rail before the Commonwealth Games, 2010; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Privatisation of supply of drinking water

2854. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of drinking water is being privatised in some metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, how the poor people would survive as private companies would look after their profits only?

User charges for increased capital expenditure on infrastructure

2855. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to facilitate increase in capital expenditure on urban infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for imposing user charges to urban infrastructure consisting drinking water, sanitation, sewage systems, electricity charges and gas distribution, urban transport, primary health service and environmental regulations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Administrative missionary for JNNURM

2856. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various cities were selected for Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) to fast track the development of infrastructure and basic services;

(b) if so, the details of the cities selected, State-wise as on date;

(c) the States that have set up administrative missionary for JNNURM including date of establishment of missionary, category-wise;

(d) the States that have claimed economic package offered by the Central

Government; and

(e) the States that have delayed in establishing/did not establish a State level administrative missionary for JNNURM and the reasons therefor category-wise?

Traffic on Delhi metro line

2857. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1908 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 2006 and state:

(a) the number of coaches at present being used on Delhi Metro Line-III, now extended to Dwarka sub-city *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2006 with the actual seating and convenient standing capacity in each coach;

(b) whether any on the spot study was made to evaluate actual number of passengers on average travelling during peak hours *vis-a-vis* normal capacity, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any actual study was made on the basis of assessment that there was no heavy traffic during peak hours; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to provide adequate services on the line, particularly during peak hours?

Cities under JNNURM

†2858. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cities related from various States in group 'A', 'B' and 'C' under Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM);

(b) the percentage of Central and State Governments' share in the expenditure to be incurred on the said Mission; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the provision made by the Centre and the State Governments to raise the financial resources?

Introduction of Monorail in Hyderabad and Secundrabad

2859. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any proposals for introduction of Monorail in Hyderabad and Secundrabad to decongest the traffic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Allotment of plots in Rohini

2860. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of applicants under Rohini Residential Scheme-1981 are still waiting for allotment of flats;
- (b) if so, the reasons for any category wise break up of pendency; and
- (c) by when plots are likely to be allotted to them?

SJSRY in North Eastern States

2861. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana in the Urban areas of the North Eastern States;
- (b) the estimated number of educated unemployed youth in Assam, engaged in various schemes of SJSRY; and

(c) the details of the State Government's achievements in the region in implementing various schemes under his Ministry in comparison to other States of the country?

Persons living Below Poverty Line

2862. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons living Below Poverty Line in the urban areas of the country and their percentage out of total urban population;
- (b) whether the Central Government studied the similar conditions in other countries and the initiatives taken by them to successfully tackle the situation; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Special policy initiative to promote sports

2863. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the latest special policy initiatives to promote and project sports and games in general and in respect of certain popular games and sports in particular;
- (b) whether there has been some outstanding achievements and performance due to such initiatives in the recent past; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that most of the outstanding players and sportman/sports women have reached their zenith on account of their own initiative and merit rather than the environment and facilities offered by Government?

Sports complex at Udupi

2864. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for construction of sports complex at Udupi district is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when a final decision would be taken?

Trained coaches for States

†2865. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH

AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that earlier States were provided with the services of NIS trained coaches by Sports Authority of India;

(b) whether this scheme has been discontinued;

(c) by when the said scheme would be introduced in Madhya Pradesh and other States; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

NEW DELHI;
The 5th May, 2006
Vaisakha 15, 1928 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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