

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the August 11, 2005/Sravana 20, 1927 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 155

#### **National Programme on Rural Industrialisation**

1884. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of National Programme on Rural Industrialisation in the State of Assam;

(b) the details of the allocation of funds made by Government during the last three years and whether it has been fully spent by the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Ban on technology and materials**

1885. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's inability to expand its present nuclear power generation capacity, which cover only 3 per cent of our total requirements is due to inadequate supplies of uranium and technological

assistance coupled with embargo by a cartel called Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG);

(b) whether the NSG operates a blanket ban on technology and materials trade with black-listed countries, including India; and

(c) if so, whether US has offered civilian nuclear energy co-operation with India which could lead the NSG to reconsider the ban currently in force?

#### **Accident in CCL mine in Hazaribagh**

1886. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI DARA SINGH  
CHAUHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of workers got trapped inside the Central Coal Fields Ltd. (CCL) Saunda mine in Hazaribagh on the 14th June, 2005;

(b) the number, out of them, who lost their lives and those who could be rescued;

(c) whether the cause of the accident has been investigated; if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such mishaps; and

(e) the nature of assistance given to the families of those who lost their lives in the mishap?

#### **Outsourcing of coal**

1887. SHRI CHITTABRATA  
MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI DIPANKAR  
MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total output of coal through outsourcing by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during the last three years?

#### **IPO by Coal India Limited**

1888. SHRI PRASANTA  
CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME  
MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry and Coal India Limited are considering an IPO to part finance its Rs. 21,000/- crores investment plans; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **E-auction by MCL**

1889. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mahanadi Coal fields Limited has launched e-auction of coal meant for non-core consumers, as against the open sale scheme;

(b) whether it has been resented by the Orissa Coal Consumers Association, as majority of the coal users do not have access to computers and therefore they cannot bid on the internet;

(c) if so, whether their grievances have been redressed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Coal shortage**

1890. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of coal supply in the country, more so in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether as a result of this industrial production of iron, steel and other metals have been affected severely; and

(c) what are the reasons for this shortage despite a vast reserve of coal of 250 billion tonnes and lignite of 36 billion tonnes in the country?

#### **Loading work in Gevara/Dipka mines**

†1891. SHRI RAMADHAR  
KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of loading in Gevara/Dipka coal mines of SECL has been entrusted to ESM (Ex-servicemen) companies;

(b) if so, the names of these companies;

(c) the amount paid to these companies under loading/unloading head during the last three years; and

(d) the rate of loading with a Surface Miner Machine and the rate paid to the ESM companies?

#### **Restoration of SECL area**

†1892. SHRI RAMADHAR  
KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of SECL sector restored

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

with sand and soil filling and plantation after the mining of the coal during last five years;

- (b) the total area yet to be filled up;
- (c) the plan for making alternate use of filled up area;
- (d) whether such land would be handed over to its original owners for making better use of it; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Fixation of royalty on coal**

†1893. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has proposed to fix the coal royalty rate on the basis of its market price instead of rupee per tonne;
- (b) whether Planning Commission has also given same suggestion to his Ministry;
- (c) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) if not, by when a decision would be taken in this regard?

#### **Frontier technologies for coal mining**

1894. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had asked the Coal India Ltd. to adopt new frontier technologies and efficient mining practices to increase production;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Coal India Ltd. is also considering to overcome constraints such as uneconomic underground mines, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Exploration of coal bed methane**

1895. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to invest in technologies such as exploration of coal bed methane (CBM) and underground coal gasification (UCG);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government have envisaged CBM production and UCG equivalent to 25 million tonnes of coal by 2025; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Lack of security norms in coal mines**

†1896. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of accidents in coal mines has increased due to overlooking of safety norms; and
- (b) the measures being taken by Government to prevent these accidents?

#### **Post offices closed in Gujarat**

†1897. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

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

- (a) whether the aim of Department of Posts is to provide services or to earn profit;
- (b) the number of post offices which have been closed in Gujarat during the last five years and the reasons therefor; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Department of Posts has any plan to appoint any agent at those places where post offices have been closed?

**Provision of Rural Telephones in Gujarat**

†1898. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:  
SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Rural Telephones are not being made available by private phone companies (Basic Operators) in certain districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of the villages where such a facility is not available?

**Funds allocated for telecom circle in Maharashtra**

1899. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:  
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BAL APTE:

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

(a) the details of the funds allocated for providing telecom services in Maharashtra for each of the last three years and the current financial year, district-wise;

(b) whether the telecom circles have achieved their targets;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the target is likely to be achieved?

**Poor performance of BSNL**

1900. SHRIMATI KAMLA  
MANHAR:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:  
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) are way behind private sector providers in terms of Quality of Service (QoS) parameters;

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

(c) whether inspite of poor performance by BSNL, Government are extending full financial support by way of Access Deficit Charges to the tune of several crores of rupees; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Restructuring of postal network**

1901. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have roped in global consultants KPMG to prepare a report on restructuring the postal network across the country;

(b) whether the mandate given to KPMG includes identifying new areas of business;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the idea behind this restructuring is to wipe out Rs. 1400 crores deficit;

(d) whether following this review the prices of postal products barring some essential common man items such as inland letters, envelopes and post cards could be increased to market rates; and

(e) if so, to what extent this revamping of postal network would be helpful?

#### **Incentives to Telecom Services Providers**

1902. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR  
SANGHI:

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

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has pointed out that Government needs to increase the level of competition in the rural sector by offering incentives to Telecom Services Providers;

(b) if so, whether the TRAI has highlighted that the operators would be required to add 4 million new users every month compared with just around 1.5 million at present to achieve the target set by Government;

(c) if so, whether this is possible only if telephone services were made available in the rural segments;

(d) if so, what are the other points made in the study paper of TRAI; and

(e) to what extent Government have accepted the proposal and the steps taken to boost the rural telephones in the country?

#### **Amendment in the Indian Telegraph Act**

1903. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Indian Telegraph Act to facilitate mobile operators roll out networks in rural areas for sharing infrastructure *i.e.* funded by the Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund;

(b) whether Government have already discussed the matter with USO Fund administration and has worked out the details;

(c) whether amendment to Telegraph Act is necessary to accommodate the basic cellular and other wireless technologies;

(d) whether the main purpose is to construct towers in rural areas, so that, cellular and CDMA lines can reach villages; and

(e) if so, by when Government are likely to amend the Indian Telegraph Act?

#### **Provision of satellite phones to subscribers**

1904. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

provide satellite phones to all the applicants of rural areas listed in waiting list by March, 2006; and

(b) if not, Government's intention in this regard?

#### **Role of post offices in banking operations**

1905. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to redefine the role and activities of the post offices to, *inter-alia*, undertake some of the banking operations across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and its present status; and

(c) the details of schemes drawn up to create the required infrastructure in post offices and to suitably upgrade the skills of the selected postal staff who would handle their new responsibilities as also machinery proposed to be established to provide the required level of expertise in managing and deploying large funds likely to be mobilized by the postal banks?

#### **Smart city project**

1906. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smart city project, conceptualized in Ernakulam district of Kerala is under the Information Technology Policy of State;

(b) if so, whether Dubai Internet City (DIC), the company behind the above project is an IT company or an IT park;

(c) whether DIC is owned by UAE Government;

(d) if so, whether DIC is eligible to get concession under the State Information Policy; and

(e) the details in Memorandum of Understanding signed with DIC for the smart city project?

#### **Unwanted phone calls**

†1907. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that mobile phone subscribers are facing a lot of problems due to the unwanted phone calls;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has also issued any guidelines to provide relief to the subscribers in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to ensure the observance of the said guidelines?

#### **Safeguarding customer's phone numbers**

1908. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken in safeguarding the customer's phone numbers;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Mobile services on Indo-Nepal Border**

†1909. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mobile service has been installed and functioning since last few years in Raxaul situated on Indo-Nepal border in Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has been decided to deprive Jai Nagar, Laukaha, Laukahi, Birpur, Jagwani and Farbeesganj cities situated on Indo-Nepal border from mobile services; and

(c) if so, the justification and complete details thereof?

### **IT software export from Tamil Nadu**

1910. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large potential of IT industry in Tamil Nadu considering its exports of software;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to assist Tamil Nadu Government in setting up of IT Parks in Coimbatore and Madurai;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Proposals for setting up of new Post Offices in UP**

1911. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the new post offices proposed to be set up in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the year 2005-06, district-wise;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps for the modernisation of existing post offices in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Modernisation of Telegraph Services in Uttar Pradesh**

1912. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the upgradation and modernisation of telegraph services in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the funds sanctioned for this purpose during the current year; and

(d) by when modernisation work is likely to be completed in the State?

### **Parity in procurement of equipment**

1913. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL is demanding for parity in procurement of equipment with private telecom operators; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Computerisation of Post Offices in NER**

1914. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Post Offices in the States of North Eastern Region which have been computerized so far;

(b) the number of Post Offices to be computerized during the financial year 2005-06, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to computerize all existing Post Officer of North Eastern Region including Nagaland?

### **Mobile services in Uttaranchal**

†1915. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that quality of mobile telephone services in several parts of the Uttaranchal has deteriorated steeply during the last few months;

(b) whether such areas have been identified where mobile services have been hampered; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps being taken for improving the quality of mobile phone services in Uttaranchal?

### **Nominal rates for incoming telephone services**

1916. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

some mobile service providers are issuing incoming telephone services at the nominal rates of Rs. 100/- to the customers;

(b) if so, whether MTNL and BSNL are also considering to provide only incoming telephonic facility at a monthly rental of Rs. 100/- in the country;

(c) if so, by when this facility would be accorded; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Data Protection Law**

1917. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:  
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS

BAL APTE:

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

(a) whether a Data Protection Law is being finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

### **Faulty phone bills in Bilaspur**

†1918. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite repeated complaints by consumers regarding faulty bills sent by WLL in rural areas of Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh problems of consumers remain unsolved;

(b) if so, the efforts made by Government to solve the problems of consumers;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) whether Government are considering to organise telephone camps at every quarter to solve the problems of the consumers; and

(d) if so, by when this procedure is going to start and the details thereof?

#### **Security precautions in Postal Department**

1919. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether computerization in Postal Department has increased the paper work instead of reducing it and added to the possibilities of frauds and embezzlement in the absence of security precautions; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to address the situation?

#### **Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Arunachal Pradesh**

1920. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Telephone Exchanges in the State of Arunachal Pradesh which have been converted into Electronic Exchange during the last three years;

(b) the details of targets fixed for the same during this period; and

(c) the details of funds granted and utilised in this regard?

#### **Bringing TRAI under CAG**

1921. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the larger interests of the public, out of whose money regulatory bodies that have been created, there is a move to bring the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) within the ambit of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India;

(b) whether TRAI had consistently remained passive on crucial matters like grey market calls causing loss to the public exchequer by declining to adjudicate complaints from BSNL and on the creation of Universal Service Fund to implement rural telecom projects; and

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

#### **Surrender of telephones**

1922. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of landline telephone connections surrendered by the subscribers of both MTNL and BSNL till March, 2005

(b) the steps taken by Government to promote landline telephone connections;

(c) whether it is a fact that after a gap of some more years the existence of landline telephone connections would be a question mark; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to avoid untimely death of landline telephones?

#### **Indian fonts in computer languages**

1923. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

are mandating that computers in/for India should have Indian Languages fonts;

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

#### **Deposits in Post Offices**

†1924. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers have to face a lot of difficulties in the withdrawal of the amount deposited at the Post Offices in rural areas as a result of which the percentage of amount deposited in the same has decreased; and

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

#### **Appointment on compassionate grounds**

†1925. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has discontinued providing Government job to the dependents of the deceased on compassionate grounds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the number of persons provided Government job on compassionate ground during the last two years, State-wise;

(d) whether Government are aware of the fact that some applications are pending in Ajamgarh and Sultanpur districts of U.P. since last 2-3 years and reports in this regard have also been sent to the Ministry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise and by when all the dependents of the deceased will get the jobs?

#### **Bandwidth requirement**

1926. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the bandwidth requirement in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the annual percentage of increase in bandwidth in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that BSNL is planning to procure up to 155 mbps of international internet bandwidth to meet the requirements of India's internet as well as broadband services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Growth in mobile and fixed lines**

1927. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Telecom sector registered a very high growth in the last three years for both mobile and fixed lines;

(b) what is the total number of fixed and mobile lines at present in the country; and

(c) by when the new National Telecom Policy is likely to be announced?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### Computerisation of Post Offices

1928. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had sought Rs. 500 crores from the Planning Commission for including those Post Offices that have not been included in the computerisation project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount so far got from the Planning Commission for this purpose;

(d) the number of computers involved in this project, State-wise and District-wise;

(e) whether Government have any proposal to reduce staff due to this computerisation; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

### Annual bilateral summit between India and Russia

1929. DR. KARAN SINGH:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have decided to held an annual bilateral summit this year;

(b) whether External Affairs Minister at the meeting with the Indo-Russia-China interaction recently announced and backed programme of Indo-Russia exchange for this year;

(c) if so, whether India, Russia and China have agreed to have package programme of bilateral exchanges; and

(d) if so, whether all these three countries have agreed to work together in all international affairs and also help India in getting UN seat?

### Demand of Veto power for UNSC seat

†1930. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Japan, Germany and Brazil have dropped their demand of 'Veto' power for permanent membership in UN Security Council;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) for how long the said demand has been dropped by these nations?

### Help to separatists by Pak Minister

1931. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:  
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:  
SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan's Information and Broadcasting Minister has helped to about 3000 Kashmiri separatist fighters;

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

(c) whether Government have proposed to the Pak Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the response from the Pakistan Government thereon?

### China's dominance in Nepal

†1932. SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dominance of China has

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

increased tremendously in Nepal and anti-India atmosphere is building up there after the transfer of power in the hands of royalty;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that China is giving military help to Nepal;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to deal with this situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Agreement with Pakistan to exchange fishermen**

1933. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have signed any agreements with regard to exchange of fishermen, who have been detained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these agreements are being implemented presently; and

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure speedy release of fishermen caught by the maritime agencies of both the countries?

#### **Representation regarding detention of fourteen Indians**

1934. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding the detention of fourteen Indians in Pakistan who were employed on foreign fishing vessels;

(b) if so, the present status of these fourteen Indians;

(c) whether our High Commission in Pakistan has initiated steps to secure their release; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Forged passports and visas**

1935. SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is also a fact that a number of cases of forged passports and visa have come to light;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check this trend; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Kohinoor diamond**

1936. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally abandoned its efforts to get back 'Kohinoor' diamond from U.K.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Bus service between Amritsar and Nankana Sahib**

1937. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken to start a bus service from Amritsar to Nankana Sahib in Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal?

#### **Musharraf's deliberation in SAFMA Conference**

1938. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has

been drawn to the address given by the Pakistani President to a SAFMA Conference including an over 30 strong delegation from India in Islamabad on the 20th May, 2005 suggesting a time frame and a formula for resolution of the Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, whether any official communication has been received in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have considered the proposal and discussed the formula with Pakistan, if so, at what level and the outcome thereof?

#### **Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with Singapore**

1939. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of the Singapore Prime Minister a comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty were signed;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement and the treaty; and

(c) the main objectives thereof and the action taken and are being taken in the light thereof?

#### **Indian children as Camel Jokeys in UAE**

1940. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is one of the seven countries sending under-aged children to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as Camel Jokeys, a practice that is banned;

(b) whether it is also a fact that to avert abuses, the UAE has made it compulsory for children from these countries to carry

separate passports;

(c) whether UAE have repatriated some of our children sent there for this illegal trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, with action plan of Government to effectively control this inhuman practice?

#### **Exchange of enclaves between India and Bangladesh**

1941. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian enclaves situated in Bangladesh and *vice-versa*;

(b) whether it is a fact that Governments of both the countries have agreed to exchange the enclaves;

(c) if so, the number of enclaves exchanged, so far;

(d) what steps are being taken to complete the exchange; and

(e) the reasons for not completion of exchange work?

#### **Repatriation of Indians in Pakistani jails**

1942. SHRI S. P. M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian prisoners lodged in a Punjab province jail in Pakistan threatened to go on a hunger-strike till death to protest the delay in their repatriation despite the completion of their prison terms, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government with regard to repatriation of the Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails after completion of their terms?

**Discussion about terrorism with US President**

1943. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had discussed with US President regarding the terrorists attacks both in India and London during his recent visit to that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the President of USA had given any firm commitment to fight terrorists menace jointly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Anti Indian activities in neighbouring countries**

†1944. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a great spurt has been seen in anti-India activities these days in Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are planning to raise these issues in the meeting of UNO or SAARC?

**Indo-Iraq economic co-operation**

†1945. PROF. R. B. S. VARMA:  
SHRI PYARELAL  
KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to enhance economic cooperation between India and Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether dialogues have been held in this regard between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the decisions taken as a result of the said dialogues?

**Jammu-Sialkot bus route**

1946. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open the Jammu to Sialkot bus route in coming days; and

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

**Arm supply to Nepal**

†1947. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pro-democrat leaders of Nepal have made an appeal to Government of India for not giving armaments to Nepal Government, if so, Government's reaction thereon;

(b) whether Government have changed the decision of not supplying arms to Nepal till the restoration of democracy there, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Nepal has got supply of arms from some other countries after India has stopped the supply, if so, the names of the countries which have extended their help to Nepal in supplying arms?

**Bus services between India and Bangladesh**

†1948. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain steps are being taken

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

to develop bilateral relations and restore mutual faith between India and Bangladesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether initiatives are being taken for restoration of Bus service from some routes for enhancing movement between India and Bangladesh;

(c) if so, the routes through which buses would ply between India and Bangladesh;

(d) whether Bangladesh agrees to the fact that anti-India activities are going on in that country; and

(e) if so, the initiatives being taken to contain the anti-Indian activities in Bangladesh?

#### **Indians imprisoned abroad without visa**

1949. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of imprisoned Indians in various countries who have been arrested because of not having proper visa; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to get them released?

#### **Indians abroad without legal documents**

1950. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indians living in different countries without legal documents, such as Indian passports or citizenship of that country; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to help them to get Indian passports or to help them to get citizenship of that country?

#### **Unemployment in the country**

†1951. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that nine million people were unemployed in the country during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the estimated number of unemployed during the year 2005;

(c) whether it is also a fact that unemployment in the country is increasing due to less creation of employment opportunities;

(d) if so, whether Government have given any suggestions for increasing creation of employment opportunities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Enforcement of Trade Union Act in Sikkim**

1952. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR: SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1510 given in Rajya Sabha on the 16th December 2004 and state:

(a) whether the Trade Unions Act, 1926 extends to all States of India;

(b) if so, under which provisions of the Act, Sikkim has been excluded from the coverage of this Act; and

(c) if not, the action taken by Government to extend and enforce the Act in Sikkim?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Interest rate on EPF**

1953. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that with the retention of 9.5 per cent interest four crore EPF subscribers are happy, and their 37.17 lakh counterparts whose deposits are managed by 2,491 private players are in a state of shock; and

(b) if so, whether Government are also thinking of bringing their interest rate at par with that of EPF subscribers so that avowed aim of Government to ensure equality of benefit to similarly placed employees is not denied to them?

### **Fixation of interest rate on EPF**

1954. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that uncertainty over fixation of rate of interest on EPF is hanging for long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the rate of interest is decided every year; and

(d) the reasons for not taking a policy decision on a long term basis?

### **Assistance to plantation workers in Tamil Nadu**

1955. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is being implemented by Government for the welfare of tea/cardamom plantation workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Government's assistance extended to tea/cardamom plantation workers particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years?

### **Child labour in mines**

1956. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inhuman treatment to small children in the Iron Ore queries in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the action being taken to stop this exploitation of child labour in these mines; and

(c) whether Government have taken any action against these query and mine owners?

### **Creation of employment opportunities**

†1957. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether Government have received the data regarding creation of employment opportunities in the country after mid-term review of the Tenth Five-Year plan;

(b) if so, the annual increase rate as regards creation of more employment opportunities during the last few years of the Tenth Five-Year plan; and

(c) whether the target of providing employment on the basis of such increase would be achieved?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Rate of Interest on EPF accumulation**

1958. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees Provident Fund Board has recommended 9.5 per cent rate of interest in EPF accumulation for the year 2004-05; and

(b) if so, the total number of subscribers to be benefited out of it?

**Grant to the parents of child labourers**

†1959. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that acute poverty compels parents to send their child to work as a labourer;

(b) whether Government propose to provide monthly grant to the parents of child labourers in order to ensure that they do not send their child to work; and

(c) if so, the amount per month proposed to be provided and the amount to be spent annually on this scheme?

**Educated unemployed**

†1960. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed people in the country and the number of people out of them belonging to rural areas;

(b) the number of educated unemployed people out of the total number of unemployed people; and

(c) the comprehensive action-plan of

Government to check unemployment in the country?

**Menace of child labour**

1961. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has about 17 million child labourers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Delhi alone has 5 lakh working kids;

(c) what incentives and punishment had been given during the previous year to curb the menace of child labour; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Population engaged in economically productive activity**

1962. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 313 million main workers, 89.2 million marginal workers and 624.6 million non-workers in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 39.1 per cent of the country's population are engaged in some form of economically productive activity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with future plan to ameliorate the condition of 624.6 million non-workers?

**Job for graduates**

1963. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of jobless in India has increased by three times during the last three years; and

(b) whether it is a fact that 17.2 per cent of Indian graduates are jobless;

(c) if so, the details thereof with reasons for the failure of various schemes in checking it; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to ensure job for graduates?

#### **Criteria of participation in ILO Conference**

†1964. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives of Labour Organisations of Government of India participated in the 93rd Conference of ILO;

(b) if so, the names of organizations and the number of representatives respectively who participated in the Conference;

(c) whether there has been a tradition to involve representatives of the biggest labour organization therein;

(d) if so, the basis on which INTUC (Indian National Trade Union Congress) was sent by the Government whereas this organization is second in number in terms of labour organization; and

(e) the reasons for not sending Indian Labour Union of number one position even through its existence since 1996?

#### **Bonded Labourers in the country**

1965. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bonded labourers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the efforts made by Government to abolish the bonded labour system; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to rehabilitate freed bonded labourers?

#### **Radical changes by EPFO to deal with mounting pension liability**

1966. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees Provident Fund Organisation is contemplating to bring about radical changes in order to deal with its employee's mounting pension liability;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to the Actuaries Report for March, 2004, Employees' Pension Scheme—currently managing a corpus of Rs. 65,000 crore—will have as assets—liabilities mismatch of about Rs. 19,300 crore in the next 30 years; and

(c) if so, what decisions were taken at the reported meeting held on 28th May, 2005 of the EPFO's Central Board of Trustees to bridge the Organisations' assets-liabilities mismatch alongwith the details thereof?

#### **Work sector for different age groups**

†1967. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 613 million persons in the country were between 15 to 64 years of age during 2001 and the figure is likely to increase to 811 million by 2011;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have estimated the number of persons and the areas in which these persons of the said age group would be working; and

(d) if so, the number of persons who would be working in agriculture, trade, service and administration sector?

#### **National warning system for Tsunami**

1968. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hyderabad based Department of Ocean Development (DOD) is setting up a long-term and round-the-clock National Tsunami warning system;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to strengthen DOD; and

(c) the number of places that have been identified to set up warning centres?

#### **Minerals from deep sea**

1969. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have undertaken the work of mapping and assessing the availability of mineral resources from the deep sea;

(b) if so, the work done so far in this regard;

(c) whether any exploration work has been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the result achieved so far?

#### **Reservation of seats in educational institutions for NRIs**

1970. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reserve 15 per cent seats in educational institutions for children of NRIs from the Gulf and South East Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some universities have expressed certain reservations in implementing this decision; and

(d) if so, the names of such universities and the objections raised by them?

#### **Coordination with foreign countries**

1971. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government Departments/Agencies that provide assistance to people want to go abroad for job purposes;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that many innocent job-seekers are cheated by bogus agencies; and

(c) whether Government would set up a Central Nodel Agency to coordinate with foreign countries/agencies and the job seekers here to avoid irregularities and deception?

#### **Conference of District Magistrates on administrative reforms**

1972. SHRI JANARDAN  
DWIVEDI:  
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:  
SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures Government propose

to take to give concrete shape and implementation thereof to the Prime Minister's telling the gathering of 354 District Magistrates in Delhi during June that "they should have a fixed tenure and that, in any case, they must never be transferred for political reasons";

(b) whether Government would initially arriving at a consensus with the State Governments in this regard as different political parties run the State Governments, so that uniform acceptable guidelines are issued to this effect; and

(c) by when such an exercise is likely to be completed ensuring, at the same time, that scope of legal infirmities in such guidelines is avoided?

#### **Watchdog Committees to assess Government's performance**

1973. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-  
CHARYA:  
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-  
RAIAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to constitute Watchdog Committees to assess the performance of the various Ministries and Departments of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their composition, tenure, functions and their *modus operandi*;

(c) by when such Committees are likely to commence their work;

(d) whether recommendations/findings of these Committees would be binding on Government; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Employment to dependent of deceased employees**

1974. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines/criteria for providing employment to the dependents of deceased Central Government employees;

(b) the number of such dependents absorbed in service during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that needy dependents have been waiting for absorption in service for over five-six years;

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

(e) what measures are contemplated to minimize the waiting period for absorption in service of the dependents of deceased Government employees?

#### **Enrolment of membership of employees under CCS (RSA) Rules**

1975. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions have been issued regarding regulation of enrolment of membership of Government servants under CCS (RSA) Rules, 1993 holding higher posts on temporary/adhoc basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these instructions are being followed by all Ministries/Departments of Government of India; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken to ensure their implementation in letter and spirit?

### **Restructuring of CSSS**

1976. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendations of the Committee of Senior Officers constituted for restructuring of CSSS has since been considered by Government;

(b) if so, the decisions taken thereon;

(c) whether all these decisions have since been implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and likely time by which the same will be implemented in toto?

### **Assessment of Government's performance by NGOs**

1977. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to engage NGOs and private sector to assess the performance of Union Government, Ministries and Departments; and

(b) whether NGOs and private sector assessment of Ministries, performance may have serious implications from national security angle?

### **Fixed term for Secretaries**

1978. DR. P. C. ALEXANDER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give a fixed term of minimum two years for Secretaries of certain Ministries;

(b) if so, which are these Ministries and what is the justification of selecting them; and

(c) instead of giving a minimum fixed term of 2 years to Secretaries of some Ministries, whether Government consider introducing a scheme by which every person selected for appointment as Secretary will have a minimum period of 2 years service despite crossing the retirement age of 60 years?

### **CSE preliminary paper in all languages**

1979. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether objective type question papers are provided only in Hindi and English at the preliminary examination of Civil Services Examination;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that most languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution are allowed as media in the Main Examination and personality test; and

(d) whether Government would allow all the languages in the Eighth Schedule as media in all the three stages of Civil Services Examination?

### **Constitution of NDC Sub-Committees**

1980. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister on the conclusion of two days' National Development Council meet decided to constitute two NDC Sub-Committees on farming and State debts to devise ways to give a fillip to the overall economic growth;

(b) if so, whether these two Sub-Committees were constituted under the Chairmanship of Agriculture and Finance Minister;

(c) if so, whether these two Committees would submit their report in a very short time and after receiving reports, the Planning Commission would include them in the approach paper of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details of the reports made by these two groups?

#### **Meeting of NDC**

†1981. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of National Development Council was held on 27th and 28th June in Vigyan Bhawan;

(b) if so, the issue discussed in the meeting;

(c) the recommendation made to be implemented in future; and

(d) the steps Government would take to implement these recommendations?

#### **Energy Coordination Committee**

1982. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has formed an Energy Coordination Committee (ECC);

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

(c) the Members of the Committee; and

(d) in what manner the Committee would help in more efficient energy management in the country?

#### **Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana**

1983. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether pilot projects to provide free good grains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing mothers was launched in Maharashtra and other States in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of the project, including names of States/districts covered, and likely to be covered;

(c) whether schemes are being implemented to ensure nutritious food intake by children in 0-3 year age group, under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY); and

(d) the details about the scheme and its implementation in Jharkhand, including the number of children covered, amount spent and logistics for its implementation, year-wise since inception of the State, district-wise?

#### **GDP growth rate of States**

†1984. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the GDP growth rate during the financial year 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 in each State of the country has been dissimilar;

(b) if so, the GDP growth rate in each State of the country during the said periods; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the names of the sectors which have made maximum contribution to GDP in each State?

#### **BPL status to a person**

1985. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the parameters/criteria for granting status of Below Poverty Line to a person;

(b) whether they are different for urban and rural areas;

(c) the total number of Below Poverty Line persons in the country with State-wise break up;

(d) what percentage is it of total population of the country as well as States;

(e) whether there is any improvement or deterioration in Below Poverty Line scenario in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Schemes/projects from Uttar Pradesh**

†1986. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted five schemes/projects of science and technology sector for approval of Central Government during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that all the five schemes of the States are pending with Central Government for clearance; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by Government to expedite clearance of all the five schemes of the State?

#### **Promoting of scientific research**

1987. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring framework legislation to promote scientific research;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the legislation would be brought forward?

#### **Research in Biotechnology**

1988. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Department of Biotechnology has selected new areas for research in the field of Biotechnology;

(b) what exactly is bio-separation;

(c) whether any research is going on in the country on bio-separation; and

(d) if so, in what way it helps the common man?

#### **Gene Silencing**

1989. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hyderabad based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (C.C.M.B.) led by Manik Pal Bhadra and Utpal Bhadra under C.C.M.B., Director Shri Lalji Singh has unravelling the mystery behind Gene Silencing paving the way for detecting the mechanisms that prevents cancer in human beings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the action taken so far

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in the direction of developing these new findings towards Pharmaceutical therapy for patenting and marketing the product to save several millions of cancer victims in the world from death, every year;

(d) whether Government would assure of releasing special package of funds in this most important and crucial field of "Gene Silencing" for speedy results; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Change in calculation of time**

†1990. SHRI BALAVANTALIAS BALAPTE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether calculation of time has been changed in the Indian National Calendar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether calculation of time on equinox (Sayon) basis is more scientific than solstice (Niryan); and

(d) if so, the action that is being taken by Government to keep the same in vogue?

#### **Commercialization of research**

1991. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to ensure quicker commercialization of research in scientific institutions and universities;

(b) if so, the details of such measures to be undertaken by Government;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to provide greater incentive to scientists;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government also propose to bring in ten Nobel Laureates in different field of science and technology and interactive sessions between them and young scientists; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Numerical weather prediction model**

1992. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to buy a spanking new numerical weather prediction model from the National Centre for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder Colorado, US;

(b) if so, by when this new model is likely to be used for operational forecasting after its validation for Indian conditions; and

(c) the advantages of the new model?

#### **Contracts of NHDP-II**

1993. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the financial allocation for each contract, the stretch of road to be constructed and the time allowed for completion?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Targets of NHAI and BRDB**

†1994. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that targets for  
the construction of roads by the National  
Highways Authority of India and Border  
Road Development Board had been fixed  
during 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith  
the amount allocated to be spent for the  
achievement of the said targets; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the target  
has not been achieved during the said  
period?

**Promotion of inland water transport**

†1995. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN  
PANY:  
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS  
BAL APTE:

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

(a) whether Government are formulating  
any scheme for promoting inland water  
transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering  
to open the extant National Waterway fully  
for transportation; and

(d) if so, by when?

**Increase in road transport  
freights**

†1996. DR. MURLI MANOHAR  
JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that road transport  
freights have been on the increase in the  
country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the annual increase rate during  
the last five years, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for such increase in the  
freights?

**Completion of highway  
corridor**

1997. SHRI SANTOSH  
BAGRODIA:  
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA  
MURTHY:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the highway  
project of North-South, East-West corridor  
comprising 7300 kms. is moving at a very  
slow pace; and

(b) the part of the project that has been  
completed and by when the whole project  
would be completed?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Roads in Tenth Plan**

1998. SHRI DHARAM PAL  
SABHARWAL:  
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

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

(a) the percentage of work of development of roads completed under the allocation made for road projects in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether there has been delay in construction of roads within time bound programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by NHAI for speedy construction work of roads?

### **Widening of Delhi-Haridwar road**

1999. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:  
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi-Haridwar road is very narrow and needs to be widened in view of pilgrimage heavy traffic; and

(b) whether Government propose to widen the road immediately and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **New National Waterways**

2000. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:  
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:  
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that three new National Waterways are being planned across the Kakinada-Pondicherry canal integrated with the Godavari and Krishna rivers, the Barak river and the East Coast canal integrated with the Brahmani river;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the outlay provided and the time-frame fixed for the project; and

(c) the details of the existing National Waterways network and plans drawn up, if any, to increase the network and also to strengthen the inland water transport infrastructure along the coastal regions of the country?

### **New projects of NHAI**

†2001. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:  
Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new projects initiated by National Highways Authority of India for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06, State-wise;

(b) the details of the estimated funds for these project;

(c) the details of the new Highways declared as National Highways, State-wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal to develop those Inter-State roads which are still State Highways; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

### **Sethu Samudram Project**

†2002. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

propose to start Sethu Samudram Project;

(b) if so, the distance likely to be reduced for ships sailing from West to East Coast and *vice-versa* following the completion of the said project;

(c) whether larger ships would also be able to sail through this way after the completion of this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps Government propose to take to enable larger ships also to sail through this way?

#### **Highways in Bihar**

†2003. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 206 kilometer length of highways of Golden Quadrilateral Express way is under construction in Bihar under National Highways Development Project; and

(b) if so, the time stipulated for completing its construction and the details regarding its status of construction so far?

#### **Declaration of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh**

†2004. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of roads in Madhya Pradesh declared as National Highways during the last three years;

(b) whether the level/surface of these highways is according to the parameters set for National Highways; and

(c) if not, by when these highways are likely to be upgraded as per the parameters set for National Highways?

#### **Funds for roads in Madhya Pradesh**

†2005. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount per kilometer given to various States for maintenance of National Highways during last three years;

(b) if so, the details of funds provided, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that in comparison to the other States less amount has been provided to Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) whether Government are considering to provide similar amount to Madhya Pradesh as is being given to other States for the maintenance of National Highways?

#### **National Highways expansion work**

2006. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highways expansion work during the last few years has considerably slowed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the details of work undertaken for the last one year (2004-05) in comparison to the proceeding year (2003-04) *vis-a-vis* the target of work; and

(d) by when the highway expansion work of NH-5 in Balasore-Bhadrakh (Orissa) section would be completed?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Coastal highways in Gujarat**

2007. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though Gujarat has about 25 per cent of the country's coast line with many ports and all sections of the coastal highways along this coast line have not been upgraded to the status of National Highways;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether Central Government accept the necessity of upgrading the coastal highways of Gujarat since it is a border State from the Defence point of view; and

(d) if so, the time-frame which is considered appropriate for the upgradation to the National Highway status?

### **National Highway through Tamil Nadu**

2008. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Highways run through the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the amount allocated for their development and maintenance during the last two years and for 2005-06;

(c) whether there is any proposal to declare any roads of the State as National Highways; and

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

### **Upgradation of roads in Karnataka**

2009. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to upgrade certain State Highways into National Highways and for converting NH-4 and NH-8 into 4-lane highways, including the section from Nelamangala by pass to Mangalore;

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

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

### **Third phase of highways plan**

2010. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently given approval to four/six-laning of 4,000 Km. of National Highways in third phase of the highways plan, and additional four/six laning of 6000 Km. under the NHDP Phase III-B involving a total cost of about Rs.55,000 crores;

(b) whether status of completion of Phase-I and Phase-II of NHDP has been taken into consideration;

(c) whether there is any time and cost over run in completion of Phase-I and Phase- II; and

(d) if so, the difficulties being experienced and the special steps that have been adopted so that these do not recur in Phase III-B?

### **National Highway in Karnataka**

2011. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Central

Government for declaration of new National Highways in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons advanced by the State Government of Karnataka for declaring new National Highways; and

(d) the response of the Central Government in this regard?

#### **Jewargi-Hiriyur Project**

2012. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposed Jewargi-Hiriyur Project;

(b) whether it has been decided to take up the said project under the Golden Quadrilateral Project; and

(c) if so, what would be the estimated cost of the above project?

#### **Four laning of Bangalore-Devanahalli Road**

2013. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to take up conversion of Bangalore-Devanahalli stretch into four lane road;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed project; and

(c) whether Government would take steps to take up the above work in view of the Bangalore International Airport coming up at Devanahalli?

#### **Construction cost of Expressway**

2014. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has increased the construction cost of expressways in the country;

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

(c) the names of firms who have been given contracts for Highways/Expressways during the last one-year with the estimated cost of the each project?

#### **National Highways in Nagaland**

2015. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways which passes through Nagaland;

(b) the number of districts that are covered by the above National Highways;

(c) whether Government propose to convert more State Highways into National Highways during the current year; and

(d) the details of expenditure incurred for maintenance/repairing and development of State Highways into National Highways in the country specially in Nagaland during the last three years?

#### **Bypass around Paramakudi town**

2016. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Paramakudi town in

Ramanathapuram district, Tamil Nadu is a fast growing, thickly populated, highly congested, important town lying on either side of National Highway leading to Rameswaram;

(b) whether there is a proposal to construct a bypass around Paramakudi town at the cost of around Rs. 90 crores and connect the same with the National Highway;

(c) if so, the status of this proposal; and

(d) by when it would be sanctioned and taken up for execution?

#### **Accidents on highways in Maharashtra**

2017. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of accidents on highways in Maharashtra is continuously increasing;

(b) if so, the number of such accidents that occurred during the last three years, year-wise, togetherwith the number of persons killed and injured;

(c) whether the number of road accidents is on the increase due to rash driving, over loading and untrained driving;

(d) if so, whether Central Government have taken certain measures to prevent such accidents in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Use of tinted glasses in vehicles**

2018. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision in the Motor Vehicles Act that tinted glasses shall not be used in cars;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which this provision has been implemented;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures Government contemplate to make a provision about tinted glass in the Motor Vehicles Act and ensure its effective implementation?

#### **Uniform system for driving licences**

2019. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government or the NHAI have received any proposal for a uniform system of giving driving licences from the Road Safety Forum in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the proposals under consideration for arranging modern and efficient driving licence examinations and efficient system of giving driving licences, nation-wise;

(c) whether poor and varied systems of giving licences for drivers in the country has created a pool of unsafe and dangerous drivers along highway;

(d) the steps proposed to consider the system of having a national system of giving driving licences; and

(e) the reasons for not taking up this proposal?

#### **Road fund for Arunachal Pradesh**

2020. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds granted for the

development maintenance and repairing of various National Highways in the NER particularly in the State of Arunachal Pradesh National Highways-wise; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Pedestrian over-bridges along highways**

2021. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NHAI has built a number of pedestrian over-bridges along the major highways in the country;

(b) the number of pedestrian over-bridges planned between Kolkata and Chennai;

(c) the number of pedestrian over-bridges planned in the year 2005-06 on this sector;

(d) the specific plans to built pedestrian over-bridges between Rajahmundry and Vijayawada on National Highways-4 (Kolkata-Chennai sector); and

(e) the reasons for not addressing concerns raised by the Road Safety Forum of Andhra Pradesh?

#### **Cargo handling facilities at ports**

2022. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have made any study of availability of Cargo handling facilities in the Ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the facilities are more than the availability of Cargo; and

(d) what is the total quantity of Cargo

exported for the last three years and what is the projection for the coming ten years?

#### **National Road Transport Policy**

2023. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have outlined a National Road Transport Policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the main emphasis in the proposed policy is on private participation, rationalisation of motor vehicle tax regime across the country, etc;

(c) the other salient features of the proposed policy;

(d) whether Government propose to involve co-operative societies to train unemployed youth in road maintenance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Inspector Raj in SSI**

†2024. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the era of Inspector Raj, the condition of the Small Scale Industries in the country is deteriorating;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to discontinue the Inspector Raj;

(c) whether the State Government and the Small Scale Industry Organisations have also been consulted;

(d) whether Government are contemplating to frame a comprehensive scheme for providing incentives to Small Scale Industries; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) if so, whether there is any time limit for the same?

### **Weakening of SSI**

†2025. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Scale Industry of the country is weakening continuously;

(b) the annual investment made in this sector during the past five years; State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to strengthen the infrastructure of Small Scale Industry?

### **Launching of satellites for space mission**

2026. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of satellites launched during each of the last three years and the expenditure incurred therefor;

(b) whether these satellites are functioning as envisaged;

(c) if so, the details thereof including benefits accrued to the country so far, satellite-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the loss incurred thereon, satellite-wise;

(e) whether any space mission including launch of satellites is planned for near future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

### **Design of spacecraft for Chandrayan-I**

2027. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Spacecraft

baseline design for Chandrayan-I has been finalized;

(b) if so, by when the design and development of scientific instruments to be flown on Chandrayan is likely to become available;

(c) whether the mission is progressing as per schedule; and

(d) by when the launch is likely to take place?

### **Supply of uranium from Russia**

2028. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia has expressed its inability to supply enriched Uranium to keep the Tarapur Nuclear Power Plant going;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what alternative arrangement has been initiated?

### **Agreement with European Space Agency**

2029. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO had entered into an agreement with European Space Agency for participation in their space-based navigation system GALLILEO;

(b) if so, details of the agreement entered into between India and the European Space Agency;

(c) whether it is also a fact that ISRO is also planning to launch its own satellites for augmenting the navigational signals received from GALLILEO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



### **Inputs for Satellite Navigation Programme**

2030. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the major objectives of the Satellite Navigation apart from indigenous capability in Space;

(b) whether GAGAN, taken up by ISRO, in cooperation with the AAI has been a part of the Satellite Navigation System;

(c) whether the technological inputs required for conducting the Satellite Navigation Programme are all indigenously developed or are being procured from other countries of the world; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Monitoring of MPLADS**

2031. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to make MPLADS more strict and effective, leaving little scope for any deviation;

(b) if so, whether Government have called for any meeting in this regard with various States;

(c) if so, the details of the discussions and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether Government have also launched electronic monitoring of MPLADS;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government have distributed softwares to each State and district administration for the purpose; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

### **MoU with Chinese Olympic Committee**

2032. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Olympic Association and the Chinese Olympic Committee have signed a Memorandum of understanding recently to boost the sporting relations;

(b) if so, the details of the areas identified for this purpose;

(c) whether Government have also any proposal to improve the ties with any other countries in regard to sports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Training to players in Bihar**

†2033. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sports training centres working in the country at present;

(b) whether training centre of Sports Authority of India at Patna has been closed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the alternative arrangements made by Government for imparting training to the players in Bihar?

### **Improving the performance of Indian hockey team**

2034. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives are being taken to improve the performance of the Indian hockey team which is deteriorating with passing years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**New approach to Olympics**

2035. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to select an entirely new team for the forthcoming Olympics so as to encourage new blood;

(b) whether it is a fact that ageing teams and declining talent are being repeatedly fielded for the Olympics;

(c) the details of the new strategies being formulated for the next Olympics;

(d) whether any advice has been sought from foreign sports consultants for this purpose; and

(e) the details of the steps proposed by Government to ensure that there is new approach to Olympics?

**Financial assistance for National Games in Jharkhand**

†2036. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Games to be held in the year 2007 in Jharkhand;

(b) the policy of Government for providing financial assistance for organizing such games; and

(c) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government for financial assistance; if so, the details thereof?

**Financial assistance to Tamil Nadu**

2037. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing financial assistance to various institutions engaged in promotion of sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years; and

(c) the details of modalities of utilization of funds by these institutions?

**Venue appraisal for Commonwealth Games**

2038. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken so far towards their preparation for holding the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi;

(b) whether a team of experts engaged by the Commonwealth Games Federation for venue appraisal, other issues concerning the games, facilities etc., required to be provided to the athletes, has submitted its report to Government;

(c) if so, the main recommendations made by the John Baker Experts Committee; and

(d) the action taken till date thereon, and the number of recommendations still pending and are under consideration of Government, alongwith the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 5th August, 2005*  
*Sravana 14, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

## I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

|  |  |
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| <b>Prime Minister</b>                                | : —  |
| <b>Agro and Rural Industries</b>                     | : 1884,  |
| <b>Atomic Energy</b>                                 | : 2028,  |
| <b>Coal</b>  | : 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891,<br>1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896,   |
| <b>Communications and Information<br/>Technology</b> | : 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902,<br>1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908,<br>1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914,<br>1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920,<br>1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926,<br>1927, 1928, |
| <b>External Affairs</b>                              | : 1885, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933,<br>1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939,<br>1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945,<br>1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950,   |
| <b>Labour and Employment</b>                         | : 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956,<br>1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962,<br>1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967,  |
| <b>Ocean Development</b>                             | : 1968, 1969,  |
| <b>Overseas Indian Affairs</b>                       | : 1970, 1971,  |
| <b>Personnel, Public Grievances<br/>and Pensions</b> | : 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977,<br>1978, 1979,   |
| <b>Planning</b>                                      | : 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985,  |
| <b>Science and Technology</b>                        | : 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991,<br>1992,   |
| <b>Shipping, Road Transport<br/>and Highways</b>     | : 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998,<br>1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004,<br>2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010,<br>2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016,<br>2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022,<br>2023,       |
| <b>Small Scale Industries</b>                        | : 2024, 2025,  |
| <b>Space</b>   | : 2026, 2027, 2029, 2030,  |
| <b>Statistics and Programme<br/>Implementation</b>   | : 2031,  |
| <b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>                      | : 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037,<br>2038.   |