

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the March 13, 2003/Phalgun 22, 1924 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy;  
Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food  
and Public Distribution; Development of North Eastern Region;  
Disinvestment; External Affairs; Labour; Planning; Road  
Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space;  
Statistics and Programme Implementation)

#### Total number of questions—155

##### Programme for rural employment

†2317. SHRI MOOLCHAND  
MEENA:  
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND  
RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are  
implementing programme for creating rural  
employment;

(b) if so, the State where this  
programme has been introduced during  
the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(c) the achievements under this  
programme during the said period  
alongwith the amount spent, State-wise;  
and

(d) the assessment made during the  
Tenth Five Year Plan period, State-wise?

##### Uranium deposits

2318. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA  
RAO:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether the coastal belt from  
Srikakulam to Visakhapatnam has vast  
Uranium deposits; and

(b) if so, the action taken to extract  
Uranium for atomic research purposes?

##### Construction of nuclear reactors

2319. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will  
the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of nuclear  
reactors that are under construction at  
present;

(b) the target date set for completion  
thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost of each of the  
projects?

##### Plutonium-based fast breeder reactor

2320. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR  
REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided  
to instal country's first plutonium-based  
commercial fast breeder reactor in the  
Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research  
Complex at Kalpakkam near Chennai;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details and purpose thereof; and

(c) whether installation of the breeder reactor is likely to assist generation of additional energy resources and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Post offices in U.P.**

†2321. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of post offices in Uttar Pradesh and post offices which are being operated from rented houses; and

(b) the existing number of villages in the State where post offices may be set up as per rule and by when post offices would be set up in all such villages?

#### **Monthly rental of Thapakhera exchange**

†2322. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly rental for Ambedkar Gram Thapakhera rural telephone exchange having the capacity of 1,000 to 3,000 lines;

(b) the basis for declaring the monthly rental of the exchange having the capacity of 1000 to 29,999 lines as Rs. 120 though in the Directory, it is Rs. 100;

(c) the basis for charging a monthly rental of Rs. 250 on Exchange system having the capacity of 100000 and more lines, though its monthly rent has been given Rs. 210 in the Directory; and

(d) whether the existing charge is based

on the rural and urban classification and exchange capacity and if not, on what basis the monthly rental of Rs. 120/- has been fixed?

#### **Telephone facilities in Manipur**

2323. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone subscribers as on date in Manipur;

(b) the telephone subscribers in waiting list;

(c) the action taken to clear the wait-listed applicants; and

(d) the plan to expand telephone service in the rural and hilly districts?

#### **Internet charges**

2324. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that internet browsing charges are likely to increase due to rise in telephone tariff;

(b) whether Government propose to moderate the charges; and

(c) what are the measures contemplated in this regard?

#### **Spurt in software piracy**

2325. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the software piracy rate,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

after recording a fall in 1999, has again recorded a spurt to 70 per cent during 2001 and whether the estimates for 2002 is pegged at 73 per cent;

(b) whether 7 out of every 10 software packages sold in the country are pirated;

(c) whether the high-profit margin in pirated software packages is attracting investments by the underworld in the trade; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to check the piracy?

#### **Rural Postal Life Insurance**

2326. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'melas'/'camps' were organised by the Department of Posts to sell policies in respect of Rural Postal Life Insurance Scheme in rural areas of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of policies sold in those melas, during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) whether Government propose to give more publicity to popularise the Rural Postal Life Insurance Scheme and if so, the details thereof?

#### **Modern telecom facilities in Rajasthan**

2327. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to provide

modern telecommunication facilities to Rajasthan;

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

(c) the details of the financial allocations made in this regard for the Tenth Five Year Plan period?

#### **Postal department's buildings in Uttaranchal**

†2328. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the District and Tehsil Headquarters in Uttaranchal where the Department of Posts has not got its own buildings as yet;

(b) whether Government have formulated any annual plan for constructing buildings for the department in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Postal services in villages of Rajasthan**

†2329. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal-services have been provided in all the villages of Rajasthan;

(b) if not, the villages of the State deprived of the postal services, district-wise;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed by Government to provide postal services in all the villages of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Setting up of research institutions**

2330. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to set up research institutions to further skills in free/open source software;

(b) Government-funded institutions already utilising free/open source software in a significant manner; and

(c) whether the State Government would be, in any way, encouraged to go in for FS/OSS solutions specially while spreading Information Technology at the educational level?

### **Free/open source software**

2331. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy towards the use and deployment of free software/open source software in Government and Government-run institutions;

(b) what consultations have been held by Government towards understanding the potential of free/open source software in making IT affordable to the citizens; and

(c) the outcome of the meeting held at New Delhi during the December, 2002 on this issue?

### **Export of IT products**

2332. SHRI B.J. PANDA:  
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

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

(a) what is the trend of export of IT products, including computer software and IT-enabled services;

(b) whether it is poised for growth in the coming years, if so the details of the growth till 2008 and whether it would hit \$50 billion as reported in the 'Hindustan Times', dated the 23rd December, 2002; and

(c) the markets in foreign lands that are giving higher foreign exchange?

### **Reduction of STD/ISD rates by cell phone operators**

2333. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cell phone operators have drastically reduced STD and ISD rates;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the cell rates are now cheaper than the STD rates of BSNL; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to make BSNL telephones at the reach of common people?

### **Employment in IT Industry**

†2334. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN  
SINGH 'LALAN':

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

(a) whether it is fact that about 6,50,000 persons are expected to get employment by March 2003 in various sectors under Information Technology industry in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether productivity of the persons employed in above industry has also been assessed; and
- (d) if so, the assessment of per capita monthly productivity during the year 2002-03?

**Guidelines for payment of telephone dues**

†2335. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines issued by Government for payment of telephone dues in rural and hilly areas;
- (b) whether it is a fact that telephone subscribers have to travel for 8 to 10 kilometres for payment of their telephone dues; and
- (c) if so, the telephone exchanges in Himachal Pradesh where people have to face such difficulties alongwith the remedial action being taken by Government in this regard?

**Disconnection of telephones in Kargil Martyr's village**

†2336. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any complaints regarding improper telephone service, disconnection of telephones lines of the Kargil Martyr, Anjani village during the last two months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the action taken against the guilty officers; and
- (d) the efforts made to improve the telephone service?

**Licence to Tata and Reliance for mobile services**

†2337. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Reliance and Tata Industry have been given licence for all mobile services through WLL;
- (b) if so, the amount collected by Government as licence fee;
- (c) whether Government have yet to receive some dues from these companies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Adoption of I.T.**

2338. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have started adopting Information Technology for streamlining Government records, especially land records; and
- (b) if so, the steps, if any, being taken by Government for adopting e-Governance in different Central Government Offices and departments and to promote e-Governance in Central-State and international relations?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Promotion of I.T. in Madhya Pradesh**

2339. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh have decided to harness the power of Information Technology for masses for empowering the people, by schemes like Gyandoot used to bring internet to the doorsteps of the tribals in Dhar district which won the Stockholm Challenge Award and Soyachaupal launched for promoting soyabean cultivation by the ITC; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government for promoting such internet schemes for rural and tribals masses throughout the country?

**Promotion of e-Gurucool**

2340. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IT education major NIIT has launched a programme for promoting e-Gurucool;

(b) if so, the objectives and *modus operandi* thereof; and

(c) whether Government have decided to promote e-Gurucool throughout the country, especially in inaccessible regions, if so, the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

**Talwar Committee Report**

2341. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have

implemented recommendations of the Talwar Committee report on Extra Departmental staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government consider to implement the Pension Scheme and maternity leave benefit for the Extra Departmental staff as recommended by the Talwar Committee;

(d) Government's reaction thereto; and

(e) whether Government propose to open 'Panchayat Dak Seva Yojana' in rural areas; if so, the details thereof?

**Software technology parks**

2342. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up software technology parks across the country during the ensuing financial year;

(b) if so, the number of such parks likely to be set up, State-wise;

(c) the details of the financial assistance to be sanctioned for the same;

(d) whether any technical assistance from the foreign collaboration is being taken or proposed to be taken in setting up the parks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Service tax on pre-paid cards**

2343. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

the private mobile operators in the country, the Airtel in particular, have increased their processing and service tax on pre-paid cards from 35 per cent—50 per cent, without any notice to the subscribers; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken for this clandestine increase in processing and service tax in the garb of making incoming calls free?

#### **Cyber-terrorism**

2344. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any Committee to fight out cyber-terrorism;

(b) if so, the composition thereof and the areas of the function assigned to it;

(c) whether any methodology has been devised for intercepting SMS, e-mails and cyber-related crimes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any efforts are being made to have bilateral agreements with foreign countries to deal with cyber-crimes committed from foreign lands but affecting India;

(f) if so, the status thereof; and

(g) whether there is any proposal to bring cyber-cafes and SMS messages under the existing laws to tackle the cyber-crimes?

#### **Opportunities in IT and Communications**

2345. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is fully

exploiting the opportunities offered by the Information Technology and Communication sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) where does India stand in the Information Technology and Communications sector as of now; and

(e) the innovative steps taken or to be taken to improve these sectors to help the common man to reap more benefits?

#### **Fund for telecom network**

2346. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated/released/utilised during the last three years for promotion, development, expansion and upgradation of telecommunication networks in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and North-Eastern Region;

(b) whether Government have made any plan for development, expansion and upgradation of telecommunication systems in the rural areas of these States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Changes in National Telecom Policy**

2347. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated a lot of changes in the National Telecom Policy, 1999 during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose behind that?

**Impact of TRAI's decision on mobile services**

2348. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent determination of TRAI, has made the poor man's mobile expensive by equating interconnect charges resulting in same cost for providing the services for GSM as well as CDMA;

(b) whether Government are planning to allow seamless roaming for CDMA phones;

(c) whether Government had earlier exempted GSM service providers from obligation to mandatorily provide service in the rural areas; and

(d) the additional financial burden added to BSNL, MTNL and private sector basic operators?

**Mail sorting offices in Andhra Pradesh**

2349. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the mail sorting offices functioning in Andhra Pradesh as on date; and

(b) what steps Government have taken for modernisation of these mail sorting Offices?

**Roaming facility on limited mobility circuits**

2350. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether roaming facility on limited mobility circuits is barred under TRAI's directives;

(b) if so, whether some private operators have offered roaming facility on their limited mobility circuits in contravention to TRAI regulations;

(c) if so, whether TRAI has initiated any *suo motu* proceedings against the private operators offering such roaming facility from their limited mobility circuits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Limited mobility**

2351. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether cellular operators have complained against limited mobility for offering services outside the local calling area;

(b) whether the cell companies have moved to the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal for redressal of their grievances;

(c) whether the cell companies have also sought the tribunal's directives to debar WLL operators from breaching the SDCA limits; and

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

**Policy for hardware sector**

2352. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring a comprehensive policy for hardware sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures proposed to flourish the hardware sector?



**Surrender of phone due to  
rental hike**

2353. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the hike in rental charges by the department, lakhs of telephones have been surrendered;

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

(c) the other reasons for surrendering the telephones?

**Status of FDI in telecom sector**

2354. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:  
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

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

(a) the status of FDI in the telecom sector and its limits and whether Government propose to enhance the limit;

(b) whether the recent phase of acquisitions and mergers given way to the growth of MNCs in India;

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to protect the Indian PSUs like BSNL and MTNL;

(d) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the lack of clear Government policy on the technology is not jeopardising the investment flow in the sector?

**MNCs in telecom sector**

2355. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telecom Sector is carrying the shadows of the pre-freedom era;

(b) whether it is a fact that more than the 70 per cent of the Telecom market today is being controlled by the MNCs who are working for their vested interests; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

**STD codes in the country**

†2356. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) number of STD codes in the country;

(b) whether Government are considering to reduce the number of STD codes; and

(c) if so, the facility being considered to be provided to reduce STD codes?

**Demand of cellular operators**

2357. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent mobile mess he has discussed various problems with basic and cellular operators;

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether demands of the cellular operators have not been properly honoured and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the further plans envisaged to clear the mobile mess?

#### **Submarine cable landing station**

2358. PROF. ALKA BALRAM  
KSHATRIYA:  
SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:  
DR. A.K. PATEL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have declared Gujarat coast as security sensitive area in clause 13 of the guidelines for setting up of submarine cable landing station for international gateways of Internet;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government has proposed for review of the guidelines for setting up of submarine cable landing station; and

(c) by when Government would declare Gujarat as a permissible zone for setting up of submarine cable landing station of International gateways for Internet?

#### **C-Dot exchanges in Andhra Pradesh**

2359. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to replace small telephone exchanges with

C-Dot Exchanges in various divisions of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any time frame has been set to accomplish this task;

(c) whether Government have made any cost/benefit analysis for this replacement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Frauds in call centres**

2360. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many frauds are taking place in call centres by people posing as agents;

(b) if so, how many such cases have been reported;

(c) what action is being taken against such impostors; and

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent such frauds in future?

#### **Quality norms for bottled drinking water**

2361. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the quality norms for bottled drinking water;

(b) whether it is a fact that Multi-National companies would be benefited by this measure since many of the indigenous firms may not be able to upgrade their standards as per the new norms; and

(c) if so, how Government would protect interest of the indigenous firms?

### **Sugar stock**

†2362. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that more than 15 million quintals of sugar stock is available in the sugar mills of the cooperative and corporate sector in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has sought assistance from the Central Government to make arrangements for selling this sugar;

(c) whether sugar of the State has also been included in the buffer stock of sugar being established by the Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **Wage structure of labourers in FCI**

2363. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the present wage structure of temporary/casual labourers working with FCI; and

(b) the details of the welfare schemes formulated by Government for these labourers?

### **Godowns by private builders**

†2364. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to allow the private traders to build godowns

and store for foodgrains without any upper ceiling;

(b) if so, by when would Government permit the traders to do so; and

(c) how many traders have already built godowns for foodgrains in the country and what capacity they have created during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

### **Deaths due to starvation and malnutrition**

2365. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the deaths reported due to starvation and malnutrition during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) whether it would not be cheaper for Government to give free food to 10 per cent poorest instead of incurring cost to carry the foodgrains in the FCI godowns?

### **Stock of foodgrains with FCI**

2366. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat, rice and paddy stored in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India as in December, 2002;

(b) the amount spent annually on storage of foodgrains; and

(c) the quantity of foodgrains which becomes unfit for human consumption every year?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### Price of sugarcane

2367. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that while Supreme Court in their Order dated the 31st January, 2001 had upheld the agreed price of Rs. 95 per quintal of sugarcane and the Allahabad High Court subsequently granted a contrary order on 13th November, 2002 directing payment of much less (Rs. 64.50) Statutory Minimum probably, due to willful concealment of Supreme Court order by the vested interests, resulting in suicide by farmers; and

(b) if so, who is responsible for this tragedy?

### Foodgrains in Central godowns

†2368. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wheat or other foodgrains available in the Central foodgrain godowns;

(b) whether any limit has been fixed for providing wheat per person in the drought affected States by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

### Rotting of foodgrains in godowns

†2369. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any incidents of rotting wheat in Government godowns in Madhya

Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra including several other States has come to Government's notice;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to maintain co-ordination in the Public Distribution System;

(c) the reasons for rotting foodgrains in Government godowns on the one hand while starvation deaths are taking place in a number of States; and

(d) whether Government propose to prepare an emergency plan in this regard?

### Distribution of rotten grains

†2370. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rotten wheat and tasteless rice is being provided to the consumers in different States under the "Antyodaya" and mid-day meal scheme;

(b) whether any arrangements are being made by Government to ensure immediate distribution of the foodgrains to the consumers, provided to the State Governments under the said schemes;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to constitute a monitoring committee at Central level for the scandals taking place in this regard; and

(d) the quantum of foodgrains being provided under both the schemes, State-wise?

### Allocation of kerosene to Kerala

2371. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present quantity of kerosene allocation to Kerala;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are indiscriminately curtailing the kerosene allotment to the State;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government consider to increase the allotment of kerosene due to the State?

#### **Amendments in Consumer Protection Act**

2372. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been actively considering further amendments in the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scope of consumer protection services has been further expanded; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Creation of Sugar Board**

2373. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMA-CHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to create a Sugar Board to sort out issues relating to sugar;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister had also announced that Government would take steps to reinstate the periodic release mechanism of freesale sugar which was dismantled following an interim order of the Allahabad High Court;

(c) if so, to what extent the Sugar Board would help in sorting out the issues relating to sugar; and

(d) by when it is likely to be formed?

#### **Economic cost of FCI on wheat and rice**

2374. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad had recently submitted its report on ways and means to reduce economic cost of FCI on wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

#### **Allocation of BPL quota of wheat and rice to Gujarat**

2375. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:  
SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are allotting BPL quota of wheat and rice on the basis of 21.20 lakh BPL families instead of 35 lakh BPL families in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase the monthly quota of BPL wheat and rice against the demand of the State?

#### **Roads and bridges constructed by NEC**

2376. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the roads and bridges funded and

constructed by the North Eastern Council during 2000-01, State-wise;

(b) the agencies engaged by NEC for implementation of the NEC road programmes;

(c) the extent of success of the works; and

(d) the new measures proposed, if any, to achieve faster and better success?

#### **Special status to NER**

2377. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given a special status to the North-Eastern Region for implementation of the Centrally sponsored projects;

(b) if so, the special schemes/projects implemented so far and approved for implementation during 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) the present status of the ongoing and under implementation schemes/projects, their original schedule of completion and the manner in which their timely completion is ensured?

#### **Closing down of Hotel Ranjit**

2378. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hotel Ranjit has been closed down after its disinvestment;

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

(c) what has been the fate of the hotel staff;

(d) whether Government have received

any complaint from the hotel union after its disinvestment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

#### **Disinvestment of Engineers India Limited**

2379. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether objections have been raised over the disinvestment in Engineers India Ltd., because of its holding the designs of key atomic plants in the country;

(b) if so, whether the proposal is waiting for clearance from the Department of Atomic Energy;

(c) whether the world over designs of atomic energy plants have been done by private sector like Westinghouse etc.; and

(d) how Government propose to handle the disinvestment proposals for such sensitive and strategic units?

#### **Privatisation of Public Sector Industries**

2380. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount realised by Government, industry-wise, after privatising the Public Sector Industries;

(b) the details of the utilisation of the realised amounts from privatisation of Public Sector Industries;

(c) the details of the achievements made after privatisation, in strengthening the National Economy and solving unemployment in the country;

(d) whether amounts of profits made on an average, annually, during three years

by way of taxes etc. from all the Public Sector Industries could be achieved after privatising them, annually;

(e) if so, details of the data to substantiate it; and

(f) if not, the reasons for privatising even profit-making Public Sector Industries?

#### **Evaluation of fixed assets of PSUs**

2381. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of DIS-INVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to evaluate all fixed assets of all PSUs to determine their values;

(b) if so, whether evaluation is done on a yearly basis;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether evaluation is based on movable and/or non-movable items?

#### **Disinvestment of Modern Food Industries**

2382. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Modern Food Industries, which was disinvested with the expectation of turn around has instead turned sick in the hands of the private management and is being referred to BIFR for liquidation/winding up formalities;

(b) if so, what have been the reasons adduced by the private management for their volte face and whether Government are satisfied by the reasoning; and

(c) the land and property owned by M/s Modern Food Industries at the time of its transfer to the private hands?

#### **Disinvestment in Bihar**

†2383. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the sectors in Bihar whose disinvestment is under Government's consideration; and

(b) the public sector companies in the State where process of disinvestment has been initiated and the details thereof?

#### **Disinvestment of CPSUs in Karnataka**

2384. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the Central Public Sector Undertakings in Karnataka which Government propose to disinvest;

(b) the Central Public Sector Undertakings making profit and the losses that are running in the State; and

(c) whether Government have given up the proposal to disinvest the HMT?

#### **Establishment of multi-polar world**

2385. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to play a constructive role in establishment of a multi-polar world and economic globalisation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement  
with France**

2386. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and France have finalised the Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement in criminal and civil matters and also exchange of foreign prisoners;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India and France have also signed a extradition treaty; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Separate Ministry for NRIs**

†2387. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a demand for constituting a separate Ministry is being made for solving the problems of Non-Resident Indians and for providing a boost to their contribution for development of the country;

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

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

**Tri-lateral Conference**

2388. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had refrained from formal participation in the recently held Track-II Tri-lateral Conference of the top military/intelligence/security experts from US, Israel and India;

(b) whether the Conference held in India deliberated on the security, military and defence co-operation among the three countries; and

(c) whether the Conference was attended by any serving army officers and others; if so, the details thereof?

**Delay in issuance of passports in  
Rajasthan**

2389. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports of inordinate delay in issuance of passports in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the number of passports issued to the applicants in the State during the last three years and as on date, year-wise;

(c) the number of applications pending so far; and

(d) the measures contemplated by Government for the expeditious disposal of all pending applications?

**Expenditure incurred by Indian  
Missions abroad**

2390. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lavish expenditure is being incurred by the Indian Missions abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in many countries residences have been bought but no one has occupied them and his Ministry has itself admitted that there are irregularities in the system;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(d) if so, how the system is being made waterproof; and

(e) what immediate steps are being taken in this regard?

**Confrontation in United Nations on Iraq issue**

2391. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the stage has been set for an all-out confrontation in the United Nations, with the France keen on taking on Britain and the United States over the ongoing crisis in Iraq;

(b) if so, whether France has circulated specific proposals that would address the issue of disarmament in Iraq in a peaceful manner;

(c) whether India has also examined the proposal; and

(d) if so, to what extent India is fully supporting the French plan?

**Hindi and Culture Officers in Indian High Commissions**

2392. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Hindi and Culture officers in the offices of Indian High Commissions abroad and the duties they have to perform;

(b) the number of posts lying vacant out of the above and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government

for appointments on the said posts at the earliest?

**NAM Summit**

†2393. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the issues raised by India in the NAM Summit held in Kuala Lumpur;

(b) the support extended by the member countries of NAM on the issues raised by India and the countries who opposed the issues;

(c) whether any issue pertaining to the Pak sponsored terrorist activities being conducted in the country had especially been raised by India in the Summit; and

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

**Japanese Foreign Minister's visit**

2394. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japanese Foreign Minister, who visited India, has announced restoration of Japan's overseas development assistance to India to the levels that existed before May, 1998 nuclear tests conducted by India;

(b) if so, whether Japan has agreed to work closely with India for achieving and also consolidating peace in Sri Lanka;

(c) whether Japan looks at India as a strategic partner in the definitive context of new perceptions that are beginning to determine the course of ongoing global fight against terrorism;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether any agreement has been reached between the two countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **US foreign office at Hyderabad**

2395. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US Embassy has written to the Ministry in 1996 for permission to open US foreign office and commercial services office at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(c) the action taken by Government on the proposal; and

(d) by when the permission is likely to be given?

#### **Indo-Bangladesh dialogue**

†2396. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had held any dialogue with the representatives of Bangladesh regarding ongoing anti India activities by terrorists in Bangladesh during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of the occasions since 1999 when such dialogues were held; and

(c) the detail of the evidences furnished by India regarding terrorist activities on each occasion alongwith the reaction of Bangladesh thereto?

#### **Illegal migration of Indians**

2397. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of Indians who are migrating to foreign countries illegally has been steadily increasing;

(b) if so, the number during the last three years alongwith the action taken against them; and

(c) whether Government had taken any action against the agents who have duped innocent persons of their hard earned money and if so, the number of such agents and the action taken against them?

#### **Indo-US agreement for higher technology**

†2398. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and America have entered into an agreement for mutual cooperation in higher technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the date on which it was entered into;

(c) whether, in view of this agreement, India had sought American assistance for construction of atomic projects during the last six months; and

(d) if so, America's reaction in this regard and what kind of assistance India has received so far?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Undiplomatic liaisons by  
Ambassadors**

2399. SHRI RAMACHANDRA  
KHUNTIA:  
SHRI B.J. PANDA:  
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Ambassadors  
were charged with undiplomatic liaisons  
and were recalled, as reported in the  
'Hindustan Times' dated the 21st  
December, 2002;

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

(c) whether there had been similar  
instances earlier, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Indian diplomats have  
some code of conduct to be observed  
abroad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and in how  
many cases this has been flouted?

**EU's opinion on cross-border  
terrorism**

2400. PROF. M. SANKARA-  
LINGAM: Will the Minister of  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether there is a view that  
European Union has refused to explicitly  
mention Pakistan's cross-border terrorism  
in the joint statement at the end of the PM's  
visit to Cyprus, Denmark and U.K. in  
October last year;

(b) if so, whether India would send or  
take other diplomatic measures to change  
their views; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Indo-US agreement**

2401. PROF. M. SANKARA-  
LINGAM: Will the Minister of  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and  
U.S. have signed an agreement last year-  
end;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas where special emphasis has  
been laid;

(d) whether the agreement has made any  
impact on Indo-US relations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Indo-US relations**

2402. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Secretary's visit  
to US in the month of February 2003 has  
been considered to be a successful one;

(b) if so, to what extent, inspite of  
differences on various issues, Government  
are confident of improving the relations  
with USA; and

(c) whether Pakistan and other  
countries, have opposed Indo-US joint  
military exercise?

**Strategic co-operation between India  
and USA**

2403. SHRI RUMANDLA  
RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the  
Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether a new era of strategic co-  
operation between India and USA is on  
cards in the year 2003;

(b) if so, what are the details of the new strategies that have been set for further expansion of Indo-US relationship;

(c) what are the issues on which both have agreed and have signed agreements;

(d) what are the agreements which have not so far been signed and are with some differences; and

(e) to what extent the US and India's relations have further improved?

#### **Ban on celebration of Bengal New Year**

2404. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Bangladesh some movements are demanding a ban on celebration of Bengal New Year and on Indian TV Channels; and

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

#### **Harassment of employees of Indian High Commission in Pakistan**

†2405. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees posted in the office of Indian High Commission in Pakistan;

(b) the number of the incidents of harassment of the employees of Indian High Commission by Pakistan came into light during the last five years and the details of the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to formulate any concrete diplomatic action plan to protect these employees from harassment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Indians in Ukraine jails**

2406. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Quest for life in the West ends in Baltic Jail" published in the 'Statesman' dated the 29th January, 2003;

(b) if so, whether hundreds of Indian are languishing in Ukraine jails and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have held discussions with the Government of Ukraine to get them released; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Degrading Mahatma Gandhi by MTV-US network and 'Maxim' magazine**

2407. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:  
SHRI A. VIJAYA  
RAGHAVAN:  
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards news caption "MTV ridicules using Gandhi clone" which appeared in 'The Hindu' dated the 30th January, 2003;

(b) whether any action has been initiated on the reported action of MTV-US Network and American fashion Magazines 'Maxim' degrading Mahatma Gandhi; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would take up this matter in the appropriate forum?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Export of dual use technology**

2408. SHRI C. RAMA-  
CHANDRAIAH:  
SHRI RUMANDLA  
RAAMACHANDRAYYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US has not so far removed barriers on the export of dual use technology;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken so far in this regard;

(c) whether the foreign secretary raised the issue with the US officials during his recent visit to US; and

(d) if so, what was their response?

**Musharraf's assurance to end cross border terrorism**

2409. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf in his speech on the 12th January, 2002 committed to end Pakistan's practice of supporting cross border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, what has been Government's experience in this regard; and

(c) what diplomatic efforts have been made to ensure that Pakistan fulfils its commitments?

**Polish Prime Minister's visit to India**

2410. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Poland has recently visited India and held discussion with various leaders;

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

(c) whether the Government of Poland have agreed to extend help to fight terrorism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Dwelling Units for EPF subscribers**

2411. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether ESIC proposes to construct or provide dwelling units to the EPF subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many dwelling units are likely to be provided to EPF subscribers in Andhra Pradesh?

**Houses to EPF subscribers**

2412. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently taken a policy decision to allot single room houses to the Employees Provident Fund subscribers all over the country;

(b) if so, the number of houses likely to be allotted to them in the National Capital Region, locality-wise;

(c) the criteria for such allotment;

(d) by when the allotment is likely to be commenced; and

(e) by when the possession of these houses would be given to them?

**Unhygienic condition of ESI hospital**

2413. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State

Insurance Corporation hospital at Okhla, New Delhi, a big institution for indoor and outdoor patient, has ever been visited by him;

(b) whether the working condition at the hospital is unhygienic and the entire paraphernalia has always foul smell emanating from nearby filths;

(c) whether such a situation is prevalent for the last decade; and

(d) if so, what remedial steps are being taken for setting the pathetic situation right for the doctors, working members of the staff and patients too?

#### **PF deposits**

†2414. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that provident fund is being collected in the country;

(b) if so, the amount deposited in the fund by the end of December, 2002;

(c) whether Government have issued any directions to invest the fund elsewhere; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have received any complaints with regard to violation thereof?

#### **ESIC cover to Tendu leaf workers**

2415. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has decided to bring Tendu leaf workers under the coverage of the Employees State Insurance Corporation; and

(b) if so, the social security measures proposed to be extended to these workers?

#### **Loss of jobs due to closure of tea gardens**

2416. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:  
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the workers who have, so far, lost their jobs due to abrupt closure of tea gardens in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar districts, tea estate-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that in most cases, the owners have left the tea estates without taking care of legitimate dues of workers; and

(c) how many tea estate owners have defaulted in depositing P.F. etc.?

#### **Domestic child workers**

2417. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that millions of children below the age of twelve years are working as domestic help in all metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, what resolution Government intend to introduce to protect these innocent children from working as domestic help;

(c) whether most of the children working as domestic help are ill-treated, abused and even beaten-up by their masters; and

(d) if so, whether Government intend to form a task force with help of local Police that would check on all children working as domestic help?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

#### **Fixation of minimum wages**

2418. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision with regard to the fixation of minimum wages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decision has been taken in consultation with various State Governments and recognised Trade Union Organisations;

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

(e) if answer to part (a) above is in the negative, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when a decision thereon is likely to be finalised?

#### **Elimination of child labour**

2419. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by Government to eliminate child labour and bonded labour in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) where there are still child labour and bonded labour in some parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to identify and rehabilitate them?

#### **EPF defaulters**

2420. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that audit of 2001-02 reveals that about two lakh

establishments defaulted in EPF deposits and a sum of Rs. 367.42 crore is to be recovered from them;

(b) if so, the amount recovered, so far, and the action taken to streamline the procedure to eliminate willful defaults;

(c) the latest position of defaulters, the amount due and recovered from them as per the audit 2001-02; and

(d) the steps being taken to recover the amount at the earliest?

#### **Employment in agricultural sector**

2421. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in agricultural sector for the last three years, gender-wise, year-wise, category-wise, caste/community-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the agricultural workers are covered under the minimum wages act;

(c) if so, the details including the minimum wages of the agricultural workers for the last three years, gender-wise, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether there is a national floor level minimum wage for the agricultural workers; and

(e) if so, the details for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise?

#### **Employment in organised/unorganised sector**

2422. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employed persons, gender-wise in organised and unorganised

sectors for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of employed persons in agricultural sector, gender-wise in organised and unorganised sectors for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether there are any social security/welfare measures for agricultural workers; and

(d) if so, the details including the States and the Districts and number of the agricultural workers covered under the above measures for the last three years, year-wise?

#### **Conference on unorganised labour**

2423. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Labour Institute organised a conference on unorganised labour, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the conclusions arrived thereat; and

(d) the steps proposed by the National Labour Institute to keep in touch with NGOs to improve the conditions of the unorganised labour?

#### **Minimum wages**

†2424. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provision of the minimum wages for men, women and minor labourers has been made under the Minimum Wages Act;

(b) if so, the reasons for the disparity in the wages in the States; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to remove the disparity and to bring uniformity in the interest of the labourers?

#### **Plan to check migration from villages**

†2425. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any national plan to check migration of people from villages to cities;

(b) whether Government have formulated any effective policy to reduce the increasing rate of unemployment in the villages;

(c) if so, whether Government have made any assessment of the increasing number of unemployed persons in the villages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Impact of liberalisation**

†2426. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consequent upon new economic policy, near about one lac factories have been closed down throughout the country and almost one crore labourers have lost their jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken in the interest of the labourers in this age of economic liberalisation; and

(d) whether labour laws providing justice to the labourers would be made more effective, if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



#### ESI benefits to workers

2427. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has held that a worker shall be entitled to ESI benefits from the date of employment and not from the date of contribution/registration for such facility;

(b) if so, whether rules are being amended to provide for such a facility;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Employment growth in organised industry

2428. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth of employment in organised industry and services both in the public and the private sector has lagged far behind the overall growth of the economy;

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

(c) the steps proposed to boost up the employment opportunities in various sectors?

#### Structural reforms and globalisation

2429. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether structural reforms and globalisation adopted since 1991 has adversely affected employment growth, industrial growth and reduction of poverty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the employment and industrial growth during 1992—2002 as compared to 1982—1991, year-wise; and

(d) how Government propose to increase share of private sector in R&D?

#### NGOs working for population stabilisation

2430. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided to fund directly the NGOs working in the area of population stabilisation instead of routing it through the State Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have attained any worthwhile success in regard to the promotion of small family norms since the National Population Policy was put in place; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### Funds for development

2431. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has evolved a multi-pronged strategy for efficient use of funds earmarked for development, both at the Centre and the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### Vision-2020

2432. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning

Commission has released a document called Vision-2020;

(b) if so, Government's comments on Vision-2020; and

(c) to what extent the targets are achievable?

#### **Gross budgetary support for States**

2433. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a difference on the size of the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the States' annual plans and Central Ministries; and

(b) the details of the shortfall in resource mobilisation expected and likely Central assistance for the States?

#### **Planning Commission Vision-2020**

2434. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently released a report on the Planning Commission Vision-2020 statement;

(b) whether as per the statement, poverty would be reduced to 10 per cent of the population by 2020 if a substantial growth rate of 9 per cent is achieved; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement the recommendation of the Vision Statement 2020 since poverty alleviation being the highest priority of Government?

#### **Task Force's recommendation on employment opportunities**

2435. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:  
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether recommendations of the Task Force on employment opportunities has been examined by the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the status thereof?

#### **Downsizing Assam Government**

2436. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has suggested downsizing financial crippled Assam Government as 90 per cent of its budget is spent on payment of salaries only, and that the State Government, having a monthly overdraft of Rs. 200 crore, is unable to mobilise even 10 per cent of funds needed for many Centrally-sponsored development schemes; and

(b) if so, the factors responsible for this as in 1950-51 its per capita income was 4 per cent above national average and in 1998-99 it was 41 per cent below the national average?

#### **Job opportunities in Rajasthan**

2437. SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open new avenues like launching of new industries to create job opportunities for educated, uneducated, skilled and unskilled people of Rajasthan;

- (b) if so, the details of such proposal;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the status of Government's agenda for providing employment opportunities?

**Schemes for Lakshadweep and Port Blair**

†2438. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the pitiable condition of the people living nearby sea regions of Lakshadweep and Port Blair;

- (b) if so, the details of the survey conducted by Government in this regard; and

- (c) the schemes formulated and implemented by Government to raise standard of living of the people of the said area and to increase employment opportunities for them?

**Financial position of Orissa**

2439. SHRI B. J. PANDA:  
SHRI RAMACHANDRA  
KHUNTIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Orissa is the poorest State of the country with 47.15 per cent of the people living below poverty lines, as reported in the Financial Express dated the 6th January, 2003;

- (b) whether the State had been hit hard by last natural calamities and as such they have not been able to make much headway in economy as a result;

- (c) whether the State is set to achieve highly ambitious targets to control BPL etc., in the Tenth Plan, as intimated by them to Centre; and

- (d) if so, help proposed to be rendered by the Centre to the State to achieve these targets?

**Declaration of Kolhapur-Nagpur road as National Highway**

2440. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have acceded to the request of the Maharashtra Government to declare Kolhapur-Nagpur road as National Highway;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;

- (d) whether Ring Road of Nagpur city has been included in the Golden quadrilateral project; and

- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**National Highways in North East**

2441. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of roads in the North Eastern States declared as National Highways;

- (b) the programmes for maintenance and development of each of the National Highways alongwith the financial allocation during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2000-03 year-wise;

- (c) the specific programme and allocation of the funds for the National Highways 39, 53 and 150 during the aforesaid financial years; and

- (d) the special effort and consideration being given for the National Highways in these extreme border States?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Roads/NHs in States**

2442. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of roads/highways built by his Ministry, State-wise, from the 1st April, 1999 to 15th February, 2003; and

(b) the proposal for construction of roads/highways in Jammu and Kashmir during the next two years?

**Highways in Andhra Pradesh**

2443. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of highways that are under construction and renovation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the present status of the works that are going on at the highways in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) by when these works are going to be completed?

**Four laning of Delhi-Moradabad-Lucknow Highway**

†2444. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is usually a jam on Delhi-Moradabad-Lucknow Highway due to increased number of vehicles;

(b) whether this Highway is proposed to be converted into four lane; and

(c) if so, whether this Highway would be developed into four lane upto Bareilly during 2003-04?

**Special training for driving**

2445. MISS MABEL REBELLO: SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether High Court of Delhi has issued directions to Government that drivers of all commercial vehicles, including outsiders, should be made to undergo special training at the Institute of Drivers Training and Research (IDTR) to make them eligible for driving as reported in the 'Hindustan Times', dated the 11th December, 2002;

(b) if so, what are the other directions issued by the Court;

(c) whether the drivers of other vehicles would also be made to undergo training in such schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Widening of Delhi-Agra NH-2**

2446. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to widen Delhi-Agra National Highway No. 2 from existing 4 lane to 6 lane or 8 lane;

(b) if so, whether Government would acquire the land/houses constructed by the poor villagers etc., along the National Highway No. 2 for this purpose;

(c) whether Government would also pay the due compensation for the houses demolished and the land acquired for the purpose at the current market rate; and

(d) by when, the project is likely to be started and be completed?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Condition of National Highways in Himachal Pradesh**

2447. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of pathetic conditions of National Highways after the flood, land slides etc., every year in Himachal Pradesh and the inadequate funds for maintenance of the National Highways in the State;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal pending with Government for allocation of more funds for Himachal Pradesh for better maintenance of National Highways in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**NH projects with World Bank assistance**

2448. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some National Highways projects are under consideration with World Bank assistance;

(b) if so, the names and number of those projects;

(c) the length and estimate cost of those projects; and

(d) the amount of World Bank assistance obtained for those projects?

**Changes in route of Highway No. 214**

2449. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Road Safety

Forum on the frequent changes in proposed Highway No. 214;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the original route and the proposed changes; and

(d) the steps proposed to address the grievances?

**Engineering solutions on NH-5**

2450. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain engineering solutions were sought on National Highway-5 by Road Safety Forum;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that NHAI has given no response to this representation; and

(d) the steps proposed to discuss the issue and find solutions?

**Construction of bridge over Brahmaputra river**

2451. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken for moving heavily loaded goods trucks *via* Mangaldai/Kharupetia (Darang District Assam) to cross the Kolia Bhongra Bridge over Brahmaputra river to upper Assam;

(b) whether Government are aware that due to weak bridge at National Highway-39 near Mangaldai, the trucks are unable to move to take advantage of shortest routes *via* above bridge;

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to construct the above bridge;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government have chalked out any scheme for construction of Mangaldai Bridge during the Tenth Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Proposals for National Highways in Bihar**

†2452. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Bihar has submitted new proposals of National Highways to the Central Government;

(b) if so, the number of new proposals received till January, 2003; and

(c) the number of proposals sanctioned till January, 2003 and the number of proposals pending for the last many years?

#### **High security registration number plates**

2453. SHRIMATI BIMBA  
RAIKAR:  
SHRI PARMESHWAR  
KUMAR AGARWALLA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 149 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 2003 and state:

(a) the reasons impelling Government to defer the date of implementation of the High Security Registration Number Plates;

(b) whether it is a fact that some States have requested Government for deferment of the project for at least 6—12 months on the ground of financial constraints; and

(c) if so, the names of such States?

#### **Roads in hilly areas**

†2454. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that petrol and diesel worth ten thousand crores of rupees is being wasted each year in the country due to movement on long, rough and rugged, miserable and circuitous roads;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that even today people of hilly areas of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh have to walk for miles due to lack of enough link roads;

(c) the steps taken by Government for connecting link roads of villages of hilly areas to major roads and widening them and converting them into metalled roads; and

(d) the details of works carried out in both the States?

#### **Upgradation of coastal highways of Gujarat**

2455. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:  
PROF. ALKA BALRAM  
KSHATRIYA:  
DR. A.K. PATEL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that though Gujarat has 25 per cent of the country's coast line with many ports, the coastal highways along this coast has not been upgraded to National Highway;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government consider the necessity of upgrading the coastal highways of Gujarat from the defence point of view;

(d) if so, the time-frame for the purpose; and

(e) what consideration has been made in respect of the State Government's proposal for upgradation of 13 State Highways totalling 2800 Kms. on priority?

#### **Express Highway from Kasaragode to Thiruvananthapuram**

2456. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct an Express Highway from Kasaragode to Thiruvananthapuram; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including employment opportunities and spur in the economic development?

#### **First phase of National Expressway**

†2457. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the first phase of National Expressway is going to be completed;

(b) the details of the amount spent so far alongwith the distance covered in Kms. and the places through which it will pass; and

(c) by when it would be opened for public and the starting and ending points thereof?

#### **Sickness of SSIs**

†2458. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently conducted any survey to ascertain the reasons for sickness of the small scale industries during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the percentage of the units assessed to be rendered sick due to each of these reasons?

#### **Long term plan for SSIs**

2459. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has requested Government to frame a growth oriented and long term plan for the small scale industries sector in addition to budgetary support; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Credit flow to SSIs**

2460. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that credit flow to Small Scale Industries sector as percentage of net bank credit and also as percentage of priority sector net bank credit is decreasing since last few years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Planning Commission and the Reserve Bank of India have shown concern over shrinking of credit to SSIs; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, what are Government's plan to arrest this falling credit trend and re-orient the focus of lending institutions towards granting increased credit to Small Scale Industries?

#### **Creation of jobs in SSIs**

2461. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Small Scale Industries sector has been given the task of producing 44 lakhs extra jobs during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, how Government plan to invigorate Small Scale Industries sector enabling it to meet this target?

#### **Growth rate of SSIs in Tenth Plan**

†2462. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN  
SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set the target for annual growth rate for the small scale industries for the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage of contribution of the small scale industries to the gross domestic production in the country as per the target?

#### **SSIs in Himachal Pradesh**

2463. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up Small Scale Industries in rural, backward, snowbound and far flung areas in Himachal Pradesh for the benefit of most weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the programme drawn up during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

#### **Revival of sick SSIs**

2464. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick Small Scale Industry units in Andhra Pradesh as on date;

(b) how many of them were financed by banks and quantum of loan pending against them; and

(c) what steps Government have taken for revival of sick Small Scale Industry units in the State?

#### **Payments due to SSIs from big companies**

2465. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the payments due to small scale industries sector from big companies;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to ensure timely payment to SSI sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Protection of SSIs**

2466. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether items reserved for small scale sector are freely imported from developed countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to protect small scale industries from such imports?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



### Closure of SSIs

†2467. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of industrial units have to face closure due to sickness in small scale sector during Nineties;

(b) if so, the total number of industrial units of small scale sector closed during the decade; and

(c) the capital that has turned non-productive due to so declared sick industrial units?

### Indo-Israel joint satellite

2468. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMA-CHANDRAYYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel are to launch a joint satellite;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Israel shares expertise with other countries like US, France, Netherlands etc. also; and

(d) if so, the action taken to ensure that double cross spying does not take place in such collaboration?

### Completion of project

†2469. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any such projects are pending with Government which were started during the First Five Year Plan and are still incomplete in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

NEW DELHI;  
The 7th March, 2003  
Phalguna 16, 1924 (Saka)

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed for completion of such projects?

### Cost overrun of Central projects

2470. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have so far identified the Central projects which have had cost overrun and time overrun during April-December, 2002;

(b) the excess expenditure caused as a result thereof;

(c) whether the factors responsible for this have been identified; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

### Work under MPLADS in Madhya Pradesh

†2471. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals regarding works sanctioned under MPLADS in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the amount released for the same;

(b) the details of the utilisation of funds provided under MPLADS to Members of Parliament from Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and the purpose for which the said amount was utilised; and

(c) the complaints received by Government regarding utilisation of funds provided under MPLADS alongwith the action taken thereon?

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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