

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, the May 13, 2005/Vaisakha 23, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Steel)

Total number of questions —155

Decreasing micro nutrients in soil

†6016. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in the report of Indian Council of Agricultural Research for September, 1998 it has been revealed that the nine fine substances in the form of minerals and salts found in the soil of Punjab and Haryana are constantly depleted;

(b) if so, whether 25 per cent of the rural population in Punjab are suffering from diabetes due to this imbalance as the zinc in the food-chains of this place is decreasing; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to remove the imbalance in the food-chain?

Development of Bamboo sector

6017. SHRIMATISYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the domestic

bamboo sector is facing some problems like inadequate trained manpower, lack of scientific methods for cultivation, lack of post harvest treatment for product development and inadequate infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade has been constituted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds allotted by Government for development of Bamboo?

Amendment to the Seeds Act

6018. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed 'Seeds Bill' harmonises with the protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Right and the Biodiversity Act, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal/suggestion/demand to provide subsidy to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

private seed industry at par with public sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the decision taken, if any?

Low cost technologies for small and marginal farmers

6019. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of small and marginal farmers in the country;

(b) the efforts made by Government to improve the condition of these farmers; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce or provide simple and low cost technologies suited to the small plots of these farmers?

Drip sprinkler irrigation system

6020. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to encourage drip sprinkler irrigation system with a view to boost agricultural production;

(b) if so, whether any experiment has been made in any State;

(c) whether Government have sought any foreign technology in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Bharat-Krishak Samaj

†6021. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of

AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date of registration of Bharat Krishak Samaj under the Registration of Societies Act alongwith the registration number thereof;

(b) whether the department gets annual audit report of the society and if so, the dates of receiving reports during the last three years;

(c) the election procedure of office bearers of the society; and

(d) the names of office bearers at all India level and State level at present?

Promotion of agro forestry and orchard units in U.P.

†6022. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote agro forestry and orchard units in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Animal Insurance Scheme

†6023. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to introduce the animal insurance scheme like crop insurance scheme which will enable the farmers to get relief in case of death of their animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Suicide by farmers

6024. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of suicide by farmers during the last about 2/3 years are found to be restricted to some regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any comprehensive study has been conducted by experts into the incidents of farmers suicides during the year 2003-04 and since May, 2004 onwards;

(d) if so, the details of the experts engaged;

(e) the salient details of their findings namely, regions witnessed suicides, personal, family and financial profiles of persons who took the extreme step, common reasons, if any, therefor; and

(f) the details of short/long term measures taken, if any, to mitigate the situation aiming at prevention?

Agreement between NAFED and HDFC for finance

6025. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI EDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited and HDFC Bank have entered into an agreement to provide finance i.e., assistance to farmers and co-operatives associated with the agri-marketing federations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when, the scheme will be formally launched; and

(d) the number of farmers who are likely to be benefited from the scheme?

Promoting sweet Sorgham or Jatropha crop

6026. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to promote sweet Sorgham or Jatropha, as alternatives to Water Intensive Crops like paddy and sugarcane; and

(b) whether any research is being undertaken by any institute under the support or auspices of the Ministry in this regard?

Invention of farm machines

6027. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are making any effort for invention of appropriate farm machines which are cost-effective, crop specific and farmers-friendly, for the cultivation of paddy crop in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the amount allocated, spent, locations of such research facilities and achievements made during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Aid for implementation of projects for relief to victims of drought

6028. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation led by Chief

Minister of Maharashtra had on May 28, 2004 called on the Prime Minister to present a memorandum for aid for a sum of Rs. 2500 crores for implementation of the projects for relief to victims of drought that hit a number of districts of the State for four years;

(b) if so, the details of the representation indicating the areas hit by drought and the severity of the drought there; and

(c) the Central Government's response thereto?

Research on tobacco Bi-products

6029. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the bi-products of tobacco can be used in preparation of medicines and hybrid tobacco can also be used in producing oil, etc.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some research has taken place in this direction and also achieved positive results; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

NWDPRA

6030. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas;

(b) the Tenth Five Year Plan targets of the project, achievements made, the expenditure involved the amount earmarked and spent so far, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of areas of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu identified for the purpose of implementation of this project; and

(d) the status of implementation of this project in the States during 2004-2005 and the target fixed for 2005-06?

Agricultural research

6031. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure increased during each of the last three years in the area of agricultural research; and

(b) the major achievements made as a result of these researches and the monetary benefits accrued to the country as a result of new inventions/ discovery in the agricultural sector?

Assistance for agricultural development works

6032. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given by Government for Agricultural Development Works in different parts of the country during the last five years;

(b) the State-wise/project-wise details thereof; and

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

Paddy cultivation in Andaman

6033. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUK-KARASAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land under paddy

cultivation in Andaman district before Tsunami;

(b) the area of land under paddy cultivation now submerged in saline water there;

(c) the number of farmers affected due to it; and

(d) the quantum of relief/assistance provided under CRF/NCCF sanctioned to the affected farmers?

Sharing loss for onion intervention scheme

6034. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed in principal to share the loss on 50:50 basis in onion intervention scheme 2000; and

(b) if so, the details of the amount sanctioned by Government to share the loss in onion intervention scheme, 2000?

Supply of Urea and DAP in Rajasthan

†6035. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Urea and D.A.P. are not available as per its demand in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the arrangements proposed in this regard?

Per capita availability of foodgrains

6036. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per capita

availability of foodgrain has come down since 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the production of foodgrain in the country had come down during the corresponding period; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the drop in the per capita availability of foodgrain?

Seeds supply by National Seeds Corporation

†6037. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Seeds Corporation meets the need of seeds in the country to a certain extent;

(b) if so, the percentage of needs in regard to wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton met by National Seeds Corporation;

(c) whether good quality seeds bearing capacity of better production are also produced by above institute; and

(d) if so, the details of the seeds, their productivity as well as their annual average supply?

Murari Committee recommendations on Deep Sea Fishing

6038. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI C.

RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Murari Committee have made several recommendations regarding Deep Sea Fishing in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that a large number of trawlers engaged for fishing have been destroyed during Tsunami; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken to rehabilitate the owners of trawlers, so far?

Demand of Indian agricultural graduates

†6039. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that demand of Indian agricultural graduates is increasing worldwide;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the names of the countries which registered increase in such demand; and

(c) the reasons for increase in such demand alongwith the average number of agricultural graduates passing out every year in India?

Clearance to Bt. Cotton

†6040. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Genetic Engineering Approval Committee had cleared commercial production of six varieties of Bt. Cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these varieties alongwith the names of the Institutes which produced these varieties;

(c) whether these varieties had been produced by any Indian Research Institute on experimental basis; and

(d) if so, the names of Indian Research Institutes alongwith the variety of Bt. Cotton seed produced by them?

Projects and Development India Ltd.

6041. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 481 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 2005 and state:

(a) whether PDIL has submitted its report to Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Fertilizer subsidy

6042. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of subsidy on a bag of fertilizer goes to the poor farmers;

(b) how it helps the marginal farmers;

(c) the estimated total fertilizers subsidy in 2005-06;

(d) whether Government propose to increase subsidy on single Super Phosphate during 2005-06; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Overcharging by drug manufacturers

†6043. DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the previous years certain drug manufacturers of the country have charged more price than the prescribed price of drugs from the consumers;

(b) if so, the extra amount charged on the basis of Government estimate; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check reiteration of charging more price in the future?

Promotion of Pharmaceutical Industry

6044. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are doing nothing for the pharmaceutical industry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have not examined the various representations received from pharma associations;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to give a boost to pharma industry in the country?

Shortage of phosphoric acid

6045. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fertilizer industry is worried over the shortage of

imported raw materials like phosphoric acid and potash;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the shortage may affect continuity in production at fertilizer plants in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to supply adequate amount of raw material to the fertilizer industry?

Consumption of foodgrains and cereals

6046. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest round of National Sample Survey has revealed decreasing consumption of foodgrains and cereals in both rural and urban India as share of food in total expenditure;

(b) whether the share of food in total expenditure as reckoned currently at 54 per cent in rural and 42 per cent in urban areas is much lower than corresponding figures for the year 1987-88; and

(c) whether despite bumper harvests and buffer stocks in foodgrains, this decline in food consumption is indicative of a faulty public distribution system?

Superfluous MRP

6047. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in case of certain commodities, the MRP indicated thereon is superfluous as their actual sale price is far less;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether this defeats the very objective sought to be achieved by prescribing mandatory indication of the MRP; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps Government have taken/proposed to take in this regard?

Inter-state trade and commerce of Bihar

6048. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the present volume of inter-state trade and commerce of the products of Bihar;

(b) the steps being taken to promote the said trade and commerce;

(c) the allocation made for the purpose; and

(d) the targets fixed in this regard?

Warehouses construction

†6049. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains in large quantity get spoiled every year in absence of proper storage arrangement in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the foodgrains which got spoiled during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government are making any plan to construct warehouses in the country during 2005-06; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Management of FMC affairs

6050. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:

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

(a) whether the Ministry of Consumer Affairs has suggested a host of amendments to the forward Contract (Regulation) Act, 1952 to strengthen forward markets commission;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has suggested the introduction of new contracts under Committee derivatives to cover options and other hybrid contracts and also permission for goods to include intangibles;

(c) whether the Ministry has also recommended making Forward Market Commission autonomous and independent by vesting management of the FMC affairs with the Chairman;

(d) if so, to what extent this proposal of the Ministry has been accepted; and

(e) the steps being taken to implement them?

PDS outlets

6051. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of outlets of Public Distribution System in the country, State-wise, particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of persons covered by it in urban and rural areas, separately, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the offtake of wheat and rice by the States during 2004-05?

Commodities through ration shops

6052. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains and other essential commodities issued per head to the BPL families through ration shops;

(b) whether Government have any plan to increase the quantity in the near future; and

(c) the percentage of population covered as BPL and also in the schemes for Antyodaya Yojana?

Starting public utility services through FPS

6053. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have to give its approval to the Fair Price Shops in the country to start STD booths, LPG/Kerosene oil dealerships and other public utility services to help them enhance viability;

(b) whether any proposal has been forwarded to the Ministries concerned *i.e.*, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Telecommunications, etc., to consider the proposals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

New draft environment policy

6054. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have released the new draft environment policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have released the policy for comments by various sections of the society;

(c) if so, the details of comments received from various sections;

(d) by when Government would formally release the policy;

(e) whether any time/date has been fixed to discuss the policy in Parliament; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Regulation of financial and commodity markets

6055. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether his Ministry has considered a proposal for covering the regulation of financial and commodity markets under one authority;

(b) if so, whether this was previously undertaken by the SEBI;

(c) whether the Ministry has decided that the independent authority would link and strengthen all the elements in the trading chain, including the commodity markets;

(d) if so, to what extent Ministry of Finance has agreed to such proposals for the Budget of 2005-06; and

(e) to what extent it would be helpful for Government?

Deficiencies in TPDS

6056. SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI N. K.
PREMACHANDRAN:

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

(a) whether Government have carried out any assessment of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any inadequacies or deficiencies in the TPDS have come/been brought to Government's notice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address these inadequacies and deficiencies?

Availability of food items and kerosene

6057. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that food articles and kerosene are not available in the fair price shops in adequate quantity;

(b) whether items disbursed through the Public Distribution System are of poor quality and food quality PDS articles are diverted into the open market for sale at a premium; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken to strengthen the PDS system to rule out misuse of the system by Fair Price Shop owners?

Mangrove plantation to check tidal waves

6058. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) tropical mangrove plantation can help protect the coastal areas from future tidal waves;

(b) if so, whether Central Government propose to plant Mangrove across the entire coastal areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Lions in various zoos

6059. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that captive lions in various zoos in India are facing early extinction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of lions in zoos as on 1st January, 2000 and 1st January 2005;

(d) the number of lions died during this period and the causes of their death; and

(e) the steps being taken to protect the living lions?

Forest rich States

†6060. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States having forest area more than the National average;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that forest rich States be compensated for protecting and conserving their forests for larger environmental benefits to the country; and

(c) in the light of Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction whether Government are contemplating to compensate such forest rich States including the State of Chhattisgarh?

an unabated increase in the flow of visitors to this rare park;

(c) whether a Delhi based team has visited the park to oversee its environmental conditions with a view to protect its natural habitat;

(d) if so, whether the team has made certain recommendations in the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Construction of four dams along the Barapalay River

6061. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are several violations of 6th February, 2005 Directive banning non-forest use projects in Protected Areas (PAs) like National Forests and Wildlife Sanctuaries; and

(b) whether Karnataka is planning to allow construction of four dams at different sites along the Barapalay River located within the Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary which would have severe adverse effect on wildlife and the environment in general causing further decrease in rainfall?

Flowering of bamboos in NE States

†6063. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Forest Research and Education Council have predicted flowering of bamboos in substantial part of N.E. States;

(b) whether it is also a fact that flowering of bamboo is an indication of famine in the offing;

(c) if so, the measures being taken by Government in view of the above situation; and

(d) the opinion of scientists in this regard?

Similipal National Park in Orissa

6062. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Similipal National Park in Orissa is one of the finest wild genetic treasures in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is

Plan for breeding several rare and endangered species

6064. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Zoo Authority had drawn out a plan for breeding of several rare and endangered species, including Tigers;

(b) if so, the details of the plan and when it was conceived; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps, if any, taken to implement the plan; and the reasons for delay?

Jhuming project in North-East

6065. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts benefited by Jhuming project (plantation-alongwith Jhum cultivation) in North-East particularly in Nagaland;

(b) the response of the people by and large on this concept; and

(c) how Government are contemplating to continue their programme particularly in Nagaland?

Proposals for maintenance and development of different National Parks

6066. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have submitted any proposals for maintenance and development of (1) Borivali (2) Nagzira-Nawegaon (3) Pench (4) Singh-Garh and (5) Tadoba National Parks under the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the Central aid sought and released therefor; and

(c) the population of different endangered species therein, in the beginning of the Tenth Five Year Plan and how far it has dwindled during the first half of the plan period and what steps are being taken to preserve, protect and promote these species?

Area under forest cover

†6067. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was only 21 per cent forest cover till 2001;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that after mid-term review of Tenth Five Year Plan period it was decided to raise the forest cover to 25 per cent by the year 2007; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and whether it is also a fact that according to National Forest Policy, it is necessary to have 33 per cent forest cover?

Protection of mangrove forests

6068. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any policy to protect mangrove forests on our coasts;

(b) if so, the present plans of Government to protect mangrove forests;

(c) the funds given to State Governments or NGOs in 2004-05 to protect and nurture mangrove forests;

(d) whether any specific scheme has been earmarked for the mangrove forests on the Andhra coast; and

(e) if so, details of such funding and encouragement given to the mangrove forests of Andhra Pradesh?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Decline of bio-diversity

6069. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that biodiversity is declining at an alarming rate throughout the world including India;
- (b) if so, the current status in India; and
- (c) the steps being taken to conserve and protect our precious wildlife and flora and fauna?

Forest Development Agency

†6070. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government approve the constitution of Forests Development Agency in the forest divisions of different States under National Afforestation Plan;
- (b) whether Government have received proposal regarding the constitution of Forest Development Agency in the Jhunjhunu forest division of Rajasthan for approval;
- (c) whether Government have communicated their approval for the proposal received; and
- (d) whether Government propose to approve the said proposal?

Meeting of LMMC

6071. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS
KAUR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting of Like-Minded Mega Diverse Countries (LMMC) was

held in Bangkok in February-March this year to thrash out a common position to take on the developed countries for getting full benefits of sharing genetic resources and traditional knowledge, and to influence the bulk of the trade in bio-resources to secure maximum benefit thereof for the tribal and other such communities;

- (b) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken and being taken in the light thereof?

Statutory Committee for approval of Genetically Modified products

6072. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the Statutory Committee responsible for approving GM (Genetically Modified) products in the country;
- (b) when was this Committee set up and details of its composition and criteria for nomination of its members; and
- (c) whether any tenure has been fixed for its members and if so, the frequency of its reconstitution and when was it last reconstituted?

Pollution in Yamuna

6073. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP
SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Supreme Court has expressed its dissatisfaction over the progress made regarding the programmes for controlling pollution in river Yamuna and its cleaning; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the amount spent for this purpose so far and the efforts being made to implement this work plan in future?

Afforestation of ravaged forest land

6074. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

SHRI C.

RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plan for afforestation of ravaged forests land through forest management schemes in various States/UTs;

(b) the latest figures of ravaged forests, State/UT wise; and

(c) the plans of Government for afforestation of forests during the next two years?

Steel units affecting environment in Chhattisgarh

†6075. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether hundreds of steel and other units in Chhattisgarh are affecting environment and causing pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of units in the State at present that have posed danger to environment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Mixing of Naptha with petrol

†6076. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Naptha is mixed with petrol;

(b) if so, the percentage thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the smoke emitted from the Naptha mixed petrol is harmful to health and environment; and

(d) the nature of ill effects of the Naptha mixed smoke on health and the details of the steps Government have taken to check such adulteration?

Measures to protect, conserve and develop forests and environment

6077. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government relating to protection, conservation and the development of forests and improvement of the environment;

(b) whether unscrupulous elements have constructed buildings or jungle lodges in the name of tourism in many States; and

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

Production and import of plastic and polythene

6078. SHRI N.R.

GOVINDRAJAR:

DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that production and import of plastic and polythene has gone up considerably in the recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also aware that use of plastic and polythene is harmful to human health;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether Government propose to impose ban on production and import of those items; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to save the people from ill effects of these items?

Ship for scrap carrying carcinogenic asbestos insulation

6079. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Danish Government have alerted India about a toxic ship-for-scrap carrying carcinogenic asbestos insulation headed for Alang yard in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Danish Government have requested Indian Government to declare the ship as illegal traffic and refuse to allow it to be dumped in India; and

(c) if so, the action proposed?

Conference of State Environment Ministers

6080. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Environment Ministry have suggested public private partnership in implementing national river and lake conservation programmes and setting up of a mechanism to monitor them;

(b) if so, whether this question was

discussed during Conference of State Environment Ministers held in New Delhi in last September;

(c) if so, what were other proposals made and discussed in the conference and whether any suggestions have been recommended in the conference; and

(d) the details thereof and by what time they are likely to be implemented?

National River Conservation Plan

6081. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government are implementing National River Conservation plan;

(b) if so, the towns in Krishna and Cauvery basins which have been selected for this purpose;

(c) the estimated cost for taking up core and non-core works to prevent pollution of river water;

(d) whether Karnataka Government have sent any proposal for extending this programme to more towns;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the amount released during 2004-05 under this programme to Karnataka?

National Green Corps Programme

6082. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Green Corps

Programme is being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) if so, number of Eco-clubs identified by Government and aided schools established in Karnataka under the above programme;

(c) the amount of grant sanctioned to each club during 2003-04 and 2004-05 in Karnataka; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to establish more Eco-clubs under this programme in Karnataka?

Setting up of fruits park at Dharmapuri in TN

6083. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a fruits park at Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu considering the immense growth of fruits there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Guidelines on trace-ability of contaminants

6084. SHRIDATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to formulate guidelines on trace-ability of contaminants and labels on food and beverage packs in the proposed unified food laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether implementation of trace-ability guidelines are likely to be made compulsory; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Integrated Food Law

6085. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether confederation of Indian Industry has called for an integrated food law that could encompass several issues in one go, including standard setting, enforcement and consumer safety for the entire food chain;

(b) whether CII is of the opinion that all current laws governing food quality and safety such as the prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and PFA rules, 1955 along with other related Acts and orders must be repealed;

(c) if so, whether Government have considered these suggestions for integrated food law; and

(d) if so, by what time an action in this regard is likely to be taken ?

Technical consultancy service

6086. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any technical consultancy service for

promoting food processing and agro-processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any effective steps for promotion of food and agro-processing industries during the current financial year;

(d) whether Government have explored the feasibility of setting up of food and agro processing industries in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Operation theatres in Private Sector

†6087. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any guidelines for the operation theatres under private sector in India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would fix any criteria for providing facilities in private sector operation theatres according to the category; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Short supply of essential drugs

6088. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Lok Nayak Hospital in Delhi has a shortage of essential TB Drugs, at the

time when we are celebrating World TB Eradication Day; and

(b) the number of hospitals in Delhi running short of essential drugs like TB and other life saving drugs?

Scarcity of life saving drugs

6089. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the reports on the sudden disappearance of major brands of life saving and anti depressant drugs from capital's drugs stores leading to hoarding and black-marketing; and

(b) if so, the factors that have caused the crisis and the steps taken to ensure the availability of these drugs in the drug stores?

Adulteration in drugs

6090. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered for adulteration of drugs during the last three years;

(b) how many prosecutions have been launched against the offenders;

(c) whether the State Governments have strengthened the machinery for detection of adulteration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

WHO assistance for hospitals

†6091. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the financial assistance provided by World Health Organisation and World Bank during last three years and till date for upgradation of hospitals in different rural areas of the country;

(b) the amount actually released so far for upgradation of rural hospitals of the country alongwith the amount utilized so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Medical infrastructure of CGHS Dispensaries

6092. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned strength of doctors and pharmacists in CGHS Ayurvedic Dispensaries in Delhi, dispensary-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to appoint doctors on contract basis in the dispensaries for the beneficiaries;

(c) if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that Class IV employees are always distributing medicines in the dispensaries due to shortage of pharmacists particularly in South Zone;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) by when all the regular vacancies are likely to be filled up?

Violation of guidelines by CMO of CGHS

6093. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CMO incharge of a CGHS dispensary is authorized/obliged to refer a beneficiary to any CGHS recognized diagnostic centre opted by the beneficiary for diagnostic tests;

(b) the limitations, if any, in this behalf;

(c) whether CMOs of dispensaries in West Delhi, particularly Janakpuri area, insist on referring beneficiaries to only Government run diagnostic centres with limited resources/facilities thereby forcing them to wait for long periods even for routine investigations, besides other hardships; and

(d) the basis for violation of guidelines by CMO and the corrective/remedial steps taken/proposed by Government?

Ayurvedic medicines

6094. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study in the United States has found that many packaged Ayurvedic products being sold there and produced in India contained high levels of heavy metals such as lead mercury and arsenic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had set up any Committee to look into this report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the findings of the Committee's report?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Central assistance for blindness treatment

†6095. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of assistance provided by Government for the treatment of blindness in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the programmes being run with the help of this assistance in these States;

(c) the number of people who have been provided eye sight through eye donation in these States; and

(d) the details of the action taken to encourage eye donation?

Vacancies in AIIMS

6096. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of doctors and other technical staff lying vacant in the AIIMS; New Delhi;

(b) the reasons for these vacancies;

(c) whether it is a fact that this is affecting the smooth functioning of AIIMS; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken to fill up these vacancies?

Surprise visit to Safdarjung Hospital

6097. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has paid a surprise visit to Safdarjung Hospital recently and noticed appalling conditions with shortage of anti-biotics;

(b) the brief summary of the conditions prevailing with instructions issued for streamlining the arrangements; and

(c) the precise action taken against the Heads of the Deptts. and absentee doctors and if not the reasons therefor?

Conflicting status report of AIDS patients

†6098. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the figures issued by National Aids Control Organization (NACO) with respect to the number of patients suffering from H.I.V. positive and AIDS are correct;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reasons for inviting tenders through advertisements in the newspapers by NACO to get the number of HIV affected people identified by external agencies in December, 2004?

Mother NGOs in Tamil Nadu

6099. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Mother NGOs working in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(b) the role and achievement of these Mother NGOs in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) the fund allocated to the State under Mother NGOs during the last three years?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Reproduction and child health

6100. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for decades many States have failed to make the most basic life saving interventions in reproductive and child health, with calamitous, human and social consequences;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of women and children are dying in India for want of adequate health care and nutrition; and

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

volunteers, if so, what risks are associated with this and what precautions have been taken;

(b) what measures have been set to relieve the volunteers in case of any negative effect;

(c) the results and side effects of this medicine studied on animals, and what probable risk on human being are associated with the medicine; and

(d) whether there are also threat of moral and ethical challenges like discrimination in insurance, travel and jobs around it, if so, what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

AIDS free Bellary

†6101. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bellary district in Karnataka is one of the most HIV infected districts in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a scheme namely "AIDS Free Bellary" had been formulated to bring down the new cases of AIDS to zero;

(c) if so, whether the said scheme has been discontinued with; and

(d) if not, the amount earmarked for this scheme for the current year and the amount spent out of the same?

Trial on AIDS Vaccine

6102. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that testing of preventive HIV/AIDS vaccine starts on

Population control drive of Maharashtra Government

6103. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Government have initiated a special drive to control population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how far it has proved effective;

(d) whether it is also proposed to encourage this drive in other States; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

Cardio surgery in Safdarjung Hospital

†6104. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cardio-surgery in Safdarjung Hospital is cheaper in comparison to AIIMS;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the percentage of success in cardio-surgery cases in Safdarjung Hospital is lesser than the percentage of success in such cases in AIIMS;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government are planning to improve the quality of cardiological treatment and to appoint a better team of cardio-surgery in the Safdarjung Hospital?

Aerated water in Hospitals

6105. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drinking of aerated water and artificial sweet drinks in hospitals all over the country is actively encouraged;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such soft drinks have been deemed to be addictive;

(c) what steps Government are taking to ban such soft drinks from being sold on all hospitals premises in the country;

(d) the policy of Government with regard to the sale of sweet artificial soft drinks to minors and on Government hospital premises; and

(e) the steps proposed to ban such soft drinks; and education campaign against such drinks in the country?

Onslaught of water borne diseases in metropolitan areas

6106. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in ninety-six percent of the metropolitan areas (Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata,

etc.) diseases are water-borne, including cholera and gastroenteritis and vector borne diseases like malaria and dengue;

(b) if so, how far Municipal Corporation or similar organizations have developed effective capabilities to deal with these diseases;

(c) whether there are any special guidelines in existence to this effect; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Facilities to pregnant working women

6107. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific policy exists regarding facilities to be provided to pregnant working women in Government and private sector organizations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any specific policy exists to enumerate facilities to nursing working mothers in the above organizations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Renovation of urological unit in RML Hospital

6108. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend facilities of urological services in RML Hospital keeping in view the increasing number of indoor and out-door patients in this unit;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that surgical cases belonging to urological unit of the Hospital

are done in general operation theatre and there is no separate operation theatre available with modern urological facilities; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Dialysis machines in Safdarjung Hospital

6109. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Safdarjung Hospital does not have dialysis machines in adequate number for the benefit of the patients both general and Government servants and pensioners;

(b) if so, what is the actual requirement of the machines and how many machines are held at present; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to provide the machines in adequate quantity with a view to ensure that there is no waiting period for dialysis?

Non-availability of Hepatitis-B-vaccine

†6110. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hepatitis-B vaccines are not available in CGHS dispensaries and Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have awarded contract for above vaccination work to any private agency; and

(d) if so, the full details thereof?

Negligence of doctors

6111. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases after cases are being reported of the negligence on the part of doctors in Government as well as private hospitals—latest being that of a case in Vimhans Hospital (Delhi);

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Medical Council of India on each of the cases of doctors' negligence?

Lack of proper labels on the medicines

†6112. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that consumers are not able to secure proper details about the medicines due to absence of any strict provision for fixing labels on the medicines in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make it mandatory to put standardised labelling format on the medicines being sold in the market; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Mortality rate of girl child

6113. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the report of an international agency, the girl child in India has 50 per cent more chance of dying before attaining the age of five;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose for the child health care?

New gene on mental retardation

6114. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-US team working on X-chromosome has uncovered dozens of new genes promising a big leap to research on mental retardation and other disorders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the new discovery is proposed to be utilized in medical practice in Government hospitals and elsewhere?

National Institute of Nutrition

6115. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the National Institute of Nutrition in Hyderabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that senior management has not been able to publish any research papers in internationally recognised journals to earn reputation internationally;

(c) the criteria used by Government to select Directors for the NIN, Hyderabad;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government would set stiff and high standards for appointment to the top posts at such institutes; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Failure of NACO

6116. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CAG has in its report criticised NACO for its failure in implementing the programmes on AIDS;

(b) if so, the details of criticism made by CAG; and

(c) the reactions of Government to this criticism?

Withholding medical seats

6117. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some medical seats in some of the medical colleges have been withheld;

(b) if so, the details of colleges and the number of medical seats withheld in the last 2 years, year-wise, State-wise and college-wise; and

(c) the reasons behind the same?

Effect on health due to cellphone

6118. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any

survey conducted to find out any ill-effect on the health of cellphone users;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to conduct any survey?

Use of harmful chemicals for toys making

6119. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

SHRI SANTOSH

BAGRODIA:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRI K.B. KRISHNA

MURTHY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the use of poisonous DEHP chemical for manufacturing toys;

(b) what action his Ministry propose to take against such toy manufacturers and to ban the manufacturing thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that toy manufacturers do not specify on toys the ingredients used in their manufacture and if so, the action his Ministry propose to take in this regard?

India-a spurious drugs manufacturer

6120. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the World Health Organisation reports which described India as major global producer of spurious drugs accounting for one third of the world's fake drugs market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such drugs producing units in U.P., Delhi and Haryana detected during the last three years and how many persons have been arrested in these cases; and

(d) whether any raid was conducted in the whole sale drug market in the capital to detect fake/spurious drugs therein during the last three years and if so, the details thereof?

Strike of chemists

6121. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the local suppliers of medicines in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries had gone on strike during the year 2004 and, so far, during the current year alongwith their demands;

(b) whether it is a fact that C.G.H.S. beneficiaries particularly the pensioners are the most adversely affected by the strike of the suppliers whose bills for reimbursement continue to remain unpaid by C.G.H.S.; and

(c) if so, the details of the pending bills of pensioners at present and by when these are likely to be paid?

Free treatment to poor persons

6122. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi High Court has recently given decision with regard to the free treatment in private hospitals to poor persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have implemented this decision and if so, the details thereof and if not, by when the decision is likely to be implemented?

Disbanding of CGHS

6123. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to disband the Central Government Health Scheme;

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

(c) whether any alternative arrangement has been proposed to help the CGHS beneficiaries and if so, the details thereof?

Disease Surveillance Cell

6124. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched Integrated Disease Surveillance Project with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) if so, the salient features of the project;

(c) whether the project is being implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details including funds allocated and facilities being provided thereof?

Diabetes prevalence in the country

6125. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prevalence of diabetes is growing in the country particularly in urban areas;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to educate people to treat/control/prevent this disease?

One child policy

†6126. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Medical Association has accorded formal approval to the proposal of one child policy for India;

(b) if so, whether this policy is in accordance with the Indian culture and acceptable to the followers of all religions; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to implement this proposal?

New research in diabetics treatment

6127. SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI N.K. PREMA-
CHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a research team in Delhi University has come up with a new drug delivery system that would allow diabetics to take insulin without the needle;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) whether the clinical trial of the new system has been carried out and if so, the details of results thereof?

Survey on the working of CGHS

6128. SHRI MANOJ
 BHATTACHARYA:
 SHRI N.K.
 PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has recently been conducted on the working of Central Government Health Scheme by any Government/non-Government agency;

(b) if so, the details thereof and major findings of the survey; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

Super speciality units in RML Hospital

6129. SHRI KARNENDU
 BHATTACHARJEE:
 SHRI MANOJ
 BHATTACHARYA:
 SHRI N.K. PREMA-
 CHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several super speciality units were created in 1996 in RML Hospital in addition to existing departments of neurosurgery, plastic surgery and cardiology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these units have been provided qualified teachers and infrastructure at par with AIIMS/ Safdarjung Hospital;

(d) the expenditure incurred on these

units during the last three years, unit-wise and year-wise *vis-a-vis* departments of neurosurgery and cardiology; and

(e) the expansion plans, if any, for these units, during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

Construction of CGHS dispensary in Ashok Vihar

6130. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of CGHS dispensary in Ashok Vihar has been delayed inordinately and residents of the areas are facing a lot of hardship on account of delay in construction of CGHS dispensary; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to construct the dispensary within time bound programme?

Expansion of AIIMS

6131. PROF. ALKA BALRAM
 KSHATRIYA:
 SHRIMATI PREMA
 CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is expanding its capacity by adding OPD and a 50 rooms private ward;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in spite of expansion and increase in beds, there is hardly any possibility of getting admissions in AIIMS; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to provide more beds for low and middle level income groups patients and if not, the reasons therefor?

Agency for AIDS control

6132. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of organisations which are taking up the HIV/AIDS control programme in the country, State-wise;

(b) the extent to which those organisations in controlling the AIDS programme are successful;

(c) whether the reports of the above agencies are monitored regularly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Per head requirement of water

†6133. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a man needs 100 litres of water for his use per day as per the reports of WHO;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that the above mentioned quantum of water per head is not available in the country; and

(d) if so, the percentage of population using the above quantum in the country?

Stations having no computerised rail reservation facilities

†6134. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in the country where computerised rail reservation facilities are still not available; and

(b) the effective steps being taken by Government to provide computerised reservation facilities at all the major railway stations?

Construction work from Agartala to Sabroom

6135. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to take the construction work of Railways from Agartala to Sabroom, the alignment being a life-line of Tripura;

(b) the progress made so far towards its finalisation; and

(c) by when this part of Railways would be taken up as a case of priority?

Conversion project in NE Region

6136. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that conversion projects in North-Eastern Region are taking a lot of time in getting commissioned; if so, the reasons therefor and steps Government propose to take to expedite the commissioning of the projects; and

(b) whether Government propose to include representatives of industry in the Zonal Railway Co-ordination Committee for the North-East and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Purchasing of stationery and other items

6137. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government departments are to purchase stationery and other items from agencies authorised by Government and if so, the reasons for the Railways not adhering to those instructions; and

(b) the steps his Ministry propose to take to strictly follow Government instructions and to scrap the Railway Board instructions circumventing Government instructions?

Computerised reservation centre at Mahesh Khunt

†6138. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide the facility of a computerized reservation centre at Mahesh Khunt railway station situated between Barauni and Katihar Railway Zones in Central Railway;

(b) if so, by when this facility will be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Inland Container Depots

6139. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CONCOR propose to open more Inland Container Depots (ICDs) in the country;

(b) the present number of ICDs and the additional ones proposed to be added;

(c) whether any new ICD is also proposed to be opened in Orissa State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Upgradation and modernisation of infrastructure

6140. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA
KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have asked for Rs. 2000 crores extra for budgetary help for upgradation and modernisation of their infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details of the upgradation plan; and

(c) the details of infrastructure that is proposed to be upgraded on the East Coast Railway?

Laying of new rail lines

6141. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how far the works related to laying of new (i) BG-electrified rail line Panvel-Karjat, (ii) Baramati-Lonand new line, (iii) Amravati-Narkher new line, (iv) New Line Ahmednagar Beed-Vajjnath, (v) Purnambar-Shirdi and (vi) Miraj-Latur have been going on as per original schedule;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the extent of delay in execution of the works project;

(c) the progress, so far, made; and

(d) the expenditure, so far, incurred thereon; and the cost escalation, if any, suffered by the Project?

Patan and Mahesana rail-route

†6142. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to convert metre-gauge rail line running between Patan and Mahesana in Bhildi Viramgam block into broad gauge;

(b) if so, by when, the work of new line from Patan to Bhildi is proposed to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Gauge conversion of Botad Ahmedabad rail-line

†6143. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any plan for conversion of meter gauge line between Botad and Ahmedabad into broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Construction of railway bridge over the Koshi river

†6144. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have accorded sanction for construction of railway bridge over the Koshi river in Nirmali in Bihar in 2004; and

(b) if so, the latest position with regard to its construction and the target fixed for completion of the same alongwith the details thereof?

Comprehensive perspective plan

6145. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Parliamentary Committee on Railways has suggested a comprehensive perspective plan project in the growth and capacity for the next five years;

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to have this proposal;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) by what time this project is likely to be completed and to what extent it would be beneficial for the railways?

Progress of B.G. conversion

6146. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of work in the B.G. conversions was held up for want of materials;

(b) if so, the action taken to get over such handicaps and to resume the work with immediate effect; and

(c) whether the on-going works in Tamil Nadu be completed as per schedule and the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

list of such works and the probable date of completion of works?

Smack addicts in and around railway over bridges

†6147. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of smack addicts loiter in and around foot over bridges of various railway stations in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are also aware that such addicts are in possession of the foot over bridges at Shivaji Bridge and Tilak Bridge railway stations round the clock causing inconvenience to the school going children and other passengers passing through the bridges; and

(c) if so, the steps being contemplated by Government to check this nuisance?

Inquiry reports by the commission of Railways safety

6148. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of inquiry reports submitted by the Commission of Railway Safety into the accidents that took place from 2002-2004;

(b) main grounds of the accidents as established in the inquiry reports; and

(c) action taken by the Railways to remove such causes?

Gauge conversion of the tracks of North Eastern Region

†6149. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for converting meter gauge/narrow gauge railway tracks of North Eastern area into broad gauge and their electrification as well;

(b) if so, the State-wise/track-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the effective steps taken by Government for implementing these schemes?

New lines and gauge-conversion in Orissa

6150.MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Parliamentary Committee for Railways has expressed concern over failure of Government to prioritize the ongoing projects, especially relating to new lines and gauge conversion, as suggested by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the details thereof with reasons;

(c) the details of such new lines and gauge conversion which fall in the State of Orissa; and

(d) the time-frame within which these would be completed?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Internet Ticketing System

6151. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) in how many cities the Internet Ticketing System is available in the country so far;

(b) the details of such location;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to intend its timing for round-the-clock facility; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Electrification of Shakurbasti to Rohtak rail line

†6152. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a project pertaining to electrification from Shakurbasti to Nangloi/Bahadurgarh/Rohtak rail line on Delhi-Rohtak Section is under consideration of the Ministry for a long time;

(b) if so, by when, the project is likely to be completed;

(c) if not, the details of the proposals under consideration to provide better rail facility to the lakhs of the commuters in this section which is included in the National Capital Territory of Delhi; and

(d) by when, the same is likely to be implemented?

Rajdhani Express between New Delhi and Visakhapatnam

6153. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the three trains, namely Link Dakshin Express, Samtha Express and Swarna Jayanti Express running between Hazrat Nizamuddin station and Visakhapatnam take more than 42 hours, 38 hours and 36 hours respectively to reach the terminal destination;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to run a Rajdhani Express between New Delhi and Visakhapatnam via Raipur as this train will take comparatively very less time to reach Visakhapatnam from Delhi and *vice versa*;

(c) if so, by when, the Rajdhani Express is likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Integrating the enquiry services

6154. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways is thinking of integrating all the enquiry services in the country;

(b) if so, what plans does the Ministry have; and

(c) how the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) helps in integrating the enquiry system?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Black coal racks

†6155. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the short allocation of black coal racks for the kilns in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government for the supply of adequate coal racks for the kilns?

Constitution of ZRUCC and DRUCC

6156. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Zonal Railways Consultative Users Committees (ZRUCC) and Divisional Railways Users Consultative Committees (DRUCCs) for Gujarat Circle have been constituted;

(b) if so, the details of composition of such Committees;

(c) the criteria adopted by Government in selecting members of these Committees; and

(d) whether Government have received complaints with regard to constitution of these Committees and if so, response of Government to these complaints?

Sexual harassment

†6157. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there are serious allegations of sexual harassment of women colleagues against the Inspector General of RPF of Central Railways, Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have received various representations in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that complainants of this case had been transferred to Pune and subsequently they were terminated from service; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to reinstate complainants in Mumbai and to take stringent action against the accused?

Rail accidents during last one year

†6158. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents which took place during the last one year;

(b) the number of inquiry committees set-up on the train accidents during the last five years;

(c) whether those committees have submitted their final reports;

(d) if so, the action taken for their implementation; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay and by when the said reports will be submitted?

Cancellation of 523 book stalls contract

6159. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present the unemployed graduate categories are managing individually and separately 523 book stalls at various Railway Stations;

(b) whether there are 6615 stations over Indian Railways which are lying vacant for book stall facility;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that as per Circular No. 38 of 2004 dated 12th October, 2004, under Para No. 5-4 the Government have decided to remove and cancel all the above 523 book stalls contracts held by unemployed graduate categories who are fully dependent to earn their livelihood on it; and also stalls of Sarva Seva Sangh Prakashan, Rama Krishna Mission and Gita Press etc; and

(d) if so, what are the detailed reasons therefor?

Losses and irregularities in Railways

6160. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether C&AG have pointed out cases of losses and irregularities amounting to several hundred crores of rupees in the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on each of the cases?

Renovating BSP

6161. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to renovate Bhilai Steel Plant, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the approximate time limit to implement it and expenditure likely to be incurred; and

(c) the source of investment in the plant?

Revival of IISCO

6162. SHRIMATI SUKHBUN KAUR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the merger of the

Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) revival plan for IISCO plant has been or is being launched; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the revival project and the main features of the plan?

Procurement of coal from American market by SAIL

†6163. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Steel Authority of India Limited had gone for spot procurement of coal from American market during April to August, 2004;

(b) if so, the total quantity of coal procured alongwith cost thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the inquiry into such procurement has become essential; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the decision of Government regarding inquiry of the matter?

Visakhapatnam Steel Plants

6164. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are plans to expand the production capacity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) the details of such plans in the coming financial year;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that no assessment has been made of the impact that expansions of steel making capacity all over the world is not being taken into account;

(d) the steps taken to assess the financial impact of expansions; and

(e) the steps proposed to get experts opinion to develop a best policy for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant?

Steel production

†6165. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present status of steel production in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a large gap between production and consumption of steel during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to boost the steel production in the country?

Iron-ore exports by NMDC

†6166. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron-ore exported during the last three years by NMDC, year-wise;

(b) by when the agreement to export iron-ore by NMDC would come to end;

(c) whether NMDC would give priority to the iron-ore requirements of the industries of Chhattisgarh State over to its export; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Consumer prices of steel products

†6167. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Confederation of Indian Steel Producers Associations has informed Government that consumer price of steel products in India is not based on export cost of steel;

(b) if so, the arguments advanced by the above said body as proof for their contentions; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision on study the said arguments and if so, the details thereof?

Closure of Public Sector Undertakings

6168. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are against closure of any Public Sector Undertaking, including Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL), Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which Centre propose to ensure continuity of its PSUs;

(c) whether in the backdrop of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's directive to KIOCL to cease mining operation in Kudremukh after December, 2005, the Centre propose to hold discussions with the State Government to work out a formula to ensure that KIOCL does not come to a standstill; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, when the discussion would be held?

VAT's effect on stainless steel industry

†6169. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that VAT system is affecting stainless steel industry most and as a result not only industry but also the consumers are suffering; and

(b) if so, whether Government are reviewing to bring down the tax rate, and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

VRS policy in BSP

†6170. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officers working in Bhilai Steel Plant are swiftly moving towards private sector after taking voluntary retirement;

(b) if so, the number of officers who took voluntary retirement by the end of March, 2005 and number of those who joined the private sector;

(c) whether Government are reviewing the voluntary retirement policy; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken/proposed to be taken?

New Delhi;
The 7th May, 2005
Vaisakha 17, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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