

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the December 13, 2004/Agrahayana 22, 1926 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Culture; Development of North-Eastern Region; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Human Resource Development; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions — 155

Foreign Trade Policy

†995. SHRIMATIMAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the New Foreign Trade Policy introduced from September, 2004;

(b) whether it has been proposed to provide relaxations to export-oriented units to increase employment opportunities therein under the said trade policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Export of steel to Pakistan

996. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India Steel Alliance has urged Government to promote steel exports to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the current statistics of export of this commodity to Pakistan and the future action plan to boost the exports?

Allocation of quota for import of oil

997. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's top edible oil companies use oil imported by the State Trading Corporation under the Annual Preferential Import Quota;

(b) whether the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) allocates quota for import of oil to the agencies;

(c) whether the DGFT had short-circuited the process of equitable allocation of the quota by allocating the entire quota to STC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Patent Amendment Bill

998. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modify the Patent Act during the Winter Session of Parliament;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that there are a lot of apprehensions in the domestic pharmaceutical and chemical sectors about the proposed amendments; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to address those apprehensions?

Concerns of drug industry on patents law

999. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drug industry has represented concerns against the patent law formulated recently by the competent authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above concerns have been rectified;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether a high level independent Commission would be initiated to make recommendations on the patent issues?

Trade between India and China

†1000. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the turn-over of export and import trade between India and China during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the commodities exported to China; and

(c) the amount of revenue earned therefrom?

Increase in exports to China

†1001. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports from India to China have increased during the last two years;

(b) if so, the commodities whose exports have increased;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from China to enhance the bilateral trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Indo-Pak talks on trade and economic cooperation

1002. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether two day Indo-Pak Secretary level talks were held in Islamabad in the month of August, 2004 on trade and economic cooperation;

(b) if so, the points and subjects discussed;

(c) whether any agreement was signed between the two countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent trade between the two countries would be improved further; and

(e) whether Pakistan's tea industry wants free deal?

Export of substandard goods

1003. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUK-KARASAR:
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any direction to the ports to prepare a list of exporters who have been charged with exporting substandard goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any list from the ports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

World Bank report on FCI

†1004. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the World Bank's report namely 'Doing Business';

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the report enumerated the reasons for which foreign capital investment is not being encouraged;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto?

Export Transaction Cost

†1005. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export transaction cost is more in India than that

of the other countries especially Japan, European countries, USA and England;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the current year; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

Export of major Commodities to Pakistan

1006. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of India's seven major commodities-iron ore, iron and steels, plastic products, sugar, machinery and instruments, residual chemicals and spices to Pakistan declined by 50 per cent to US \$ 30 million during 2002-03;

(b) the reasons for the negative export growth; and

(c) the measures Government are taking or propose to take to increase its exports to Pakistan during the current year and in the coming years?

Infrastructure improvement to boost exports

1007. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose special policies to increase private investment in ports, railways etc., in a bid to improve infrastructure facilities in the country so as to achieve the export target of 21 per cent; and

(b) how exactly the scheme 'ASIDE' work in the States for boosting exports and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

equity participation in infrastructure projects?

Production of cigarettes and bidis

1008. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cigarettes and bidis are being produced in various States, illegally and without having proper license;

(b) if so, the details of such illegal producers; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to curb the illegal manufacturing of cigarettes and bidis?

Export Credit Guarantee Corporation

1009. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the capital of Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) from Rs. 500 crore to Rs. 800 crore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Export target

1010. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have export target of US \$ 150 billion for the financial year 2009-10;

(b) if so, the basis of this export target set by Government;

(c) whether Government have made any plans for increasing rice exports during the next five years;

(d) whether any specific plan has been drawn up for agricultural exports; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Rise in exports

1011. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports have crossed US dollars 40 billion during the period from April 1 to October 30, 2004;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the growth of exports during this seven month period increased nearly 27 per cent over the same period last year;

(c) to what extent the traditional exports like tea, jute, etc. have not kept pace with the overall rate of growth of 27 per cent; and

(d) the steps taken to give a boost to traditional exports?

Focus of the New Foreign Trade Policy

1012. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the thrust of the New Foreign Trade Policy (NFTP), which proposes to replace the existing Export-Import (EXIM) policy;

(b) the details of the strategy that has been worked out under this new framework to double the exports of goods and services; and

(c) the details of the incentives and facilities that are proposed to be given to the industry to boost the exports?

SAARC Conference

1013. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the recently concluded SAARC Conference, he had called on the SAARC nations to build a

strong framework of regional economic cooperation which should be workable and programme based; and

(b) if so, the response of the SAARC countries thereto?

Import of elementary mercury

1014. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of elementary mercury has increased manifold during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of imports during the last three years; and

(c) the names of industries who are importing mercury and whether mercury is being used as consumer product and if so, the reasons therefor?

India International Trade Fair

1015. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visitors in the International Trade Fair held from November 14, 2004 this year;

(b) whether it is a fact that adequate arrangements were not made for their comfort and conveniences;

(c) the reason for the inability of the ITPO to make adequate arrangements;

(d) how Government propose to deal with increasing crowds at this trade fair site;

(e) whether the trade fair would be held twice every year; and

(f) the details of the alternative plans being considered by ITPO in this regard?

Special Economic Zone in Kerala

1016. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accorded sanction to set up a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) at Kochi in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the stipulations specified in the New Foreign Trade Policy relating to development of the towns of export excellence and the towns of Kerala, where the concerned sectors achieved the cross mark?

Indo-Chinese trade relations

1017. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are willing to build a long term and sustainable economical relation with China as India has emerged number one trading partner replacing Japan in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, whether China's decision to give India approved destination status for tourism purpose would help in availing information gap existing between the two countries;

(c) if so, to what extent both India and China have agreed to improve their trade relations; and

(d) the agreements reached between the two countries?

Raw material exports

1018. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the exports of raw materials like iron ore, cotton, tobacco and minerals like Bauxite during the three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to scale down exports of raw materials and in their place export more finished or processed products;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Subsidy Based Export Policy

1019. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a new private sector subsidy based export policy to ensure that India does not suffer from excessive out flow of wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) what is the difference between the Open Door Export Policy and Subsidy-Based Export Policy?

Import of tea waste

1020. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several tea exporters from India have been importing tea waste from Indonesia and other countries and re-exporting them as orthodox variety;

(b) whether Libya has recently rejected a huge consignment of tea from India as sub-standard;

(c) if so, whether the certificate of origin for this consignment was issued by Jodhpur Chamber of Commerce rather than Tea Board; and

(d) whether Government would consider appointing Tea Board as the sole inspection agency for tea exports from the country?

Foreign investment in SEZ

1021. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to woo foreign investors to set up Special Economic Zones by raising the FDI cap to 100 per cent;

(b) whether the proposal includes biotechnology parks and other Free Trade and Warehousing Zones; and

(c) if so, the features thereof?

Indo-China Trade

1022. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sino-Indian trade is set to cross \$ 10 billion mark this year for the first time;

(b) if so, whether India determines to further diversify and strengthen bilateral ties between the two countries;

(c) if so, whether according to India, its efforts are to increase trade and economic relationship with China;

(d) if so, what are the proposals that are being considered by Government to improve trade ties with China;

(e) to what extent these efforts have been successful; and

(f) to what extent the agreement reached in this regard would help to improve trade ties further?

India's share in global trade

1023. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out a strategy to double India's share in global trade during the next five years;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof, indicating the share of agriculture and service sectors in the present exports and the targeted exports; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken in that direction?

Development of Pragati Maidan

1024. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a project proposal for developing Pragati Maidan into a world class centre for international trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its cost and work-schedule; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken in pursuance thereof?

Impact of shortage of containers

1025. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-

availability of adequate containers and their detention by the customers have hit India's exporting community and ship agents; and

(b) if so, its impact on exports during the last three years, year-wise, due to non-availability of containers in the country?

Free Trade Agreement

1026. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have signed Free Trade Agreements with Asean and Africa in addition to Thailand; and

(b) if so, the details of this FTA policy and the benefits that would accrue both to the Centre and the States to boost their exports?

Indo-Russia Trade

1027. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Joint Inter Governmental Commission between India and Russian Federation has been set up to identify new areas of trade co-operation;

(b) if so, the details of the objectives of this Joint Commission;

(c) the areas of trade in which the Russian Federation has expressed interest;

(d) the steps Government are taking to increase trade and exports to the Russian Federation this year; and

(e) the details of any strategy and action evolved in this regard?

Scrapping of DEPB Credit

1028. SHRI M.A.M. RAMA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Finance has mooted a proposal to scrap the existing Duty Entitlement Passbook (DEPB) credit for certain sectors;

(b) if so, the reasons for scrapping DEPB;

(c) whether this move is going to hit hard the exporters who have already entered into agreements with foreign buyers after factoring in the existing DEPB credit; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

Free Trade Agreements

1029. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and a few are in advance stage of negotiation;

(b) if so, details thereof including the country and group of countries associated with the above as on date;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a cell to monitor Free Trade Agreements, if so, the details including the proposed functions of the cell; and

(d) the details of studies/complaints if any on the adverse impact of FTAs on tea and rubber industry and the action taken thereon?

Repairing of monuments

1030. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to get the construction/repair work of various monuments done through non-CPWD agency;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the CPWD has lost the confidence of Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Celebration of Taj Mahotsava

1031. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Taj Mahotsava was organized recently to celebrate 350 years of the Taj;

(b) if so, the salient features of the celebration and the number of foreign and Indian tourists who attended the celebration; and

(c) whether the environment clearance for the celebration could not be given in time and night viewing of the Taj was withheld, since the quantum of suspended particulate matter was much more than three times of the permissible limits?

Preservation of documents in National Archives

1032. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether historic documents of the East India Company and Mughal period preserved in the National Archives are in bad shape and will crumble if touched; and

(b) the action proposed to fumigate, give a complete pest control treatment and repair the building to ensure no roof leakage to save the valuable documents for posterity?

Grants for protection of heritage sites

1033. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government supplement and release grants on the recommendations received from the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) for protection of heritage sites;

(b) if so, the details of the funds received from EFC supplemented by Government and released to the State Governments during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and heritage site-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that full grants have not been released to some of the States; and

(d) if so, the present status in this regard and the targeted date for settlement of the claims, State-wise?

Promotion of artifacts

1034. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to lack of care, many classical, folk and tribal artifacts are dying out in the modern lifestyle; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to promote/save these artifacts?

World heritage status to NMR

1035. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nilgiris Mountain Railway (NMR) is proposed to be given world heritage status;

(b) whether the UNESCO experts have recommended for the grant of the above status;

(c) if so, the present position of the case;

(d) whether any other monument is also proposed to be conferred the above status; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

NEC Projects in Tripura

1036. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the NEC projects in Tripura in respect of industry;

(b) what are the schemes undertaken by NEC for development of Tea Processing factory of Leelagarh Cha Bagan Sramik Samabaya Samiti Ltd., Durgabari Tea Estate Workers Cooperative Society Ltd. and Bamboo development for socio-economic upliftment of the rural people; and

(c) the details of the programmes and achievements, in this regard?

Fund for Development of NER

1037. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by Government during the last three years for the development of the North-Eastern Region;

(b) the amount actually released to various States of the region during these years; and

(c) the details of the amount actually spent through various schemes during these years by the respective State Governments, year-wise and State-wise?

**Breach of Joint Venture Agreement
by Suzuki**

1038. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's Japanese Joint Venture partner in Maruti Udyog-Suzuki has recently made an announcement regarding setting up of new car manufacturing and diesel engine making ventures in India in breach of understanding of their joint venture agreement and without seeking Government's consent;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any clarification in this regard from Suzuki; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Categorization of Public Sector
Industries**

1039. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Group of Ministers, constituted under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, in the recent past had divided the Public Sector Industries into four categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the basis of categorization;

(c) the reasons for this categorization; and

(d) the policy adopted by Government after obtaining relevant information regarding these categories?

BHEL Unit at Durgapur

1040. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state the present status of the proposal received from the West Bengal Government in July 2004 for opening of a new Unit of BHEL at Durgapur?

Women Commission for UTs

1041. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a Union Territory level Women Commission for Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu;

(b) the time frame for setting up such a Commission; and

(c) whether the National Commission for Women has made any recommendations in this behalf and if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**AIDS awareness in schools
curriculum**

†1042. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked all the State Governments to include information about AIDS in school curriculum to make the youths aware of it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government do not feel that teachers should be given training before including such information in the schools curriculum; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are going to take in this regard?

Eradication of illiteracy

1043. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the achievement as provided in the National Policy on Education with reference to eradication of illiteracy as well as expenditure on education?

National Commission on Education

1044. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government committed to establish a National Commission on Education in pursuance of the Common Minimum Programme of the UPA combine;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has raised objections to the establishment of the Commission on the issue of overlapping of the functions of the proposed Commission with that of the University Grants Commission; and

(c) whether Government propose to model the proposed Commission on the Kothari Commission?

Vacancies of Principals in Kendriya Vidyalayas

†1045. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the posts of regular principals in Kendriya Vidyalayas have been lying vacant for a long time; and

(b) if so, the number of the posts lying vacant and by when those vacancies would be filled up?

National Commission of Education

1046. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CMP of the UPA Government promised for constitution of a National Commission on Education;

(b) if so, what action his ministry has taken to constitute such a Commission;

(c) whether any discussion in this regard has been held with the Planning Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) by when the proposed commission is going to be set up; and

(f) whether the Commission is going to focus only on higher and secondary education?

Assistance to voluntary organisations/agencies

1047. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for providing assistance to voluntary organisations and agencies engaged in welfare of women and children/dissemination and spread of women education;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that only three NGOs from Tamil Nadu have been given a meagre assistance during the last three years;

(c) the amount released by Government to each of these organizations during the last three years and till date; State-wise; and

(d) the details of the agencies which are monitoring and auditing such organizations?

National Nutritional Programme

1048. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the National Nutritional Programme for the upper primary school;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the States selected for the above purpose;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide cooked meals to all the students in primary school;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the fund allotted or proposed to be allotted, State-wise and Category-wise; and

(e) the details of the fund allotted for various items and the number of students benefited, State-wise and category-wise as on today?

Entrance test for technical courses

1049. SHRI K. CHANDRAN
PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYA-
RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new policy on entrance test for technical courses has been announced;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments are given option of admitting students through entrance test conducted by Xavier Labour Research Institute, All India Management Association or the Association of Indian Management schools;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is any proposal to direct the State Governments to admit the students through the All India Engineering Entrance Examination conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

National Commission on Education

1050. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a National Commission on Education on the lines of University Grants Commission for primary and upper primary education;

(b) if so, whether after having consultation with the Ministries of the Finance, Home and Planning Commission, a final decision has been taken; and

(c) if so, by when the Commission is likely to be set up?

Study on school education

1051. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recently conducted a study on imparting education in private and public schools;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the schools in NCT of Delhi do not provide fee-waivers to the disabled and these schools do not have pro-poor admission policy; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

Appointments of teachers in KVS

1052. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether final result for recruitment of Trained Graduate Teachers by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan was declared on the 8th May, 2004 but no appointments have so far been made;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in making appointments, the number of persons who were empanelled on the basis of the test, the number of vacancies likely to be filled up during 2004-05 and 2005-06, separately; and

(c) by when the selected candidates are expected to receive appointment letters?

Review of education scenario

1053. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are scrutinizing the periodic review of the entire education scenario including the proper implementation of DPEP in the State;

(b) whether there are any reports about

the regular monitoring of status of education in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the details about the plans and procedures and what are the structural charge being made by Government?

Construction of underground water tanks in Navodaya Vidyalays

†1054. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Public Works Department has offered to construct underground water tanks in Navodaya schools and Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when Government would inform to Public Works Department about its decision?

Commission for Minority Educational Institutions

1055. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Constitution to establish a Commission for Minority Educational Institutions that would look into affiliation of the minority professional institutions to the Central Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above Commission has suggested affiliation of the minority professional institutions to the Central Universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the action taken;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) whether there is any proposal to affiliate the other educational institutions like minority educational institutions to the Central Universities;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether the Central Universities are having any provision for such affiliation?

Distortion in the text of National Anthem

†1056. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the word 'Gujarat' has been removed from the national anthem printed in the text books for Class IX in Kerala and if so, it is not an attack on national integrity; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to ascertain the facts from the State Government and rectify the position?

Review of Education Policy

1057. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to review the Education Policy; and

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

Connecting schools through internet

†1058. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking

over connecting village-level primary/middle schools through internet service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Facts about freedom fighters in the text books

1059. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka and other States have deleted the names of Veer Savarkar and Chandra Shekar Azad from the list of National icons in the text books;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that facts about freedom fighters are correctly given in the school text books all over the country?

Funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Madhya Pradesh

†1060. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has requested the Central Government to provide 90 per cent of funds instead of 75 per cent for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

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

(c) whether the State Government has also requested to provide rupees 40 crores for implementation of operation quality scheme formulated for training of teachers in the State; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are going to take in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Scams in Central Social Welfare Board

†1061. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints of scams in the Central Social Welfare Board have been received in the recent past; and

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

Desertion of women after marrying NRIs

1062. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems faced by the young girls in Punjab and other States facing desertion after marriage to Non-Resident Indians;

(b) whether the National Commission for women has carried out any study of this phenomenon and made any recommendations concerning laws relating to marriage and succession; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to tackle this problem?

Setting up of private education boards

†1063. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is free to all to set up a private educational board in the absence of any Central legislation in this regard;

(b) whether Government have any information with regard to the number of

fake educational boards operating in the country;

(c) whether Government consider it necessary to enact a Central legislation in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Teachers Training by NCERT

†1064. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether NCERT has been allowed to undertake the work of teachers training on older pattern even after according legal status to NCTE in 1993 and now two institutes are involved in giving similar training;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to improve the situation;

(c) whether Government have considered according legal status to NCERT and Central Education Board like NCTE; and

(d) by when SCTE would get recognition?

Admission in Public Schools

1065. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision to give admission to the brother or sister if one of them is already studying in a public school;

(b) whether the provision is not being followed on the plea that they have to give admission to 25 per cent of the poor students; and

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Setting up of IIT in Kerala

1066. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the States which do not have IITs;
- (b) whether any proposal from Kerala is pending, to set up an IIT in the State;
- (c) whether Government have taken any policy decision to set up the same in the States by upgrading the existing academic institutions; and
- (d) if so, whether Government would consider to set up an IIT by upgrading the existing engineering college at Thiruvananthapuram?

Failure of NCERT

1067. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Council of Education and Research and Training (NCERT) has not achieved the target fixed for the Ninth Plan;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that funds allocated for the Council have also not been utilised properly; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1068. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any memoranda has been submitted by the Parents Association of K.V. INA to improve the teaching quality and maintain discipline among the students and teachers of the school;

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

(c) in the face of increasing demand of English in today's global economy, what measures have been taken by the K.V. to impart education in English medium to those interested?

Day-care centres in Uttaranchal

†1069. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Palna-Ghar run by various organisations in Uttaranchal and out of them, how many day-care centres are being run by "Bhartiya Aadim Jati Sewak Sangh";
- (b) whether some of the day-care centres have been closed down recently; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government are going to take to open more day-care centres?

Participation of private sector in education

†1070. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to consider participation of the private sector in the field of education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Admission of small kids

1071. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports in the media that 1,000 kid lose school slot in Kendriya Vidyalaya due to clerical error;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons given by the concerned authorities of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in this regard;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to allow admissions in these unfilled 1000 seats; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officers responsible for this serious lapse?

Legislation to govern admissions in professional colleges

1072. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring an uniform legislation to govern admissions to all the professional colleges in the country;

(b) whether Government have initiated any moves to evolve a consensus of the States as education being a State subject and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government expect that the new process to be in place for the next academic year?

Report of NHRC

1073. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the recent report of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) highlighting

the fact that practice of "Devdasi" system wherein socially and economically backward families are made to offer their young daughters to the temples, continue to be practiced even in non-BIMARU States like Karnataka;

(b) Government's reaction thereto especially in the light of the observation suggesting that not a single case has been booked under the Karnataka Devdasis Prohibition Act; against the priests despite many complaints and evidence of close nexus between the priests and girls traffickers; and

(c) the steps contemplated on the basis of the observations made by NHRC?

Conversion of Andhra University into Central University

1074. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received in his Ministry for upgrading Andhra University to the level of Central University;

(b) if so, when such a request was received; and

(c) the action contemplated thereon?

Expansion of Integrated Child Development Scheme

1075. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: