

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, the December 14, 2005/Agrahayana 23, 1927 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Defence; Home Affairs; Non-
Conventional Energy Sources; Power; Rural Development; Textiles)**

Total number of questions —155

Extension of subsidy on capital loans to coffee growers

2267. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has extended five and three per cent interest subsidy to small and medium coffee growers respectively on working capital loans through the Coffee-Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would also like to extent the subsidy;

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

(e) whether Government had also waived the old development loans and interest amounting to Rs. 64.50 crore availed by small coffee growers from the Coffee Board;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) what is the total financial benefit given to the coffee growers from the special package?

Import of iron-scrap

2268. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government allows import of scrap iron for use in steel plants;

(b) if so, what is the policy with regard to import duty on import of scrap iron for actual users in the country;

(c) what steps are proposed by Government to ensure that leakages and frauds are prevented in this matter; and

(d) reasons for allowing low import duty on import of scrap iron meant for re-export, etc?

Blacklisting of agencies issuing Pre- Shipment Inspection Certificates

2269. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the last year's explosions in and around Delhi caused by

live shells imported as scrap, DGFT black listed a number of agencies authorised by it to issue Pre-Shipment Inspection (PSI) certificates;

- (b) if so, the details of such companies;
- (c) whether live shells are still being imported as scrap; and
- (d) if so, the stringent action being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard by Government?

Increase in import of agricultural products

2270. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that import of agricultural products has gone up during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) steps taken to bring down agricultural imports?

Facilities provided to increase export

†2271. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that economic and other facilities are provided by Government to the units set up in different zones established to increase export in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) estimated value of economic facilities provided to these units during the last three years?

Setting up of beef industry

†2272. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have sought opinion from Ministry of Environment and Forests regarding setting up of beef industry by the multinational companies in the country;
- (b) if so, facts in this regard; and
- (c) the reasons behind Government's decision to consider the proposal of setting up of beef industry in the country?

Steps for industrial promotion

2273. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: MAULANA OBaidULLAH KHAN AZMI:

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

- (a) what steps have been taken by Government for industrial promotion in the country; and
- (b) what have been the results of these steps during the last two years and the current year so far?

Livelihood provided by retail markets

†2274. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent people are earning their livelihood in retail markets as a self-employment in the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if not, estimate made by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that by incorporating technology based system in present retail marketing system, more employment opportunities would be generated with less capital investment; and

(d) if not, the facts thereof and reaction of Government in this matter?

Turnover of retail market

†2275. 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 turnover rate of retail market in the country is constantly increasing since last few years;

(b) if so, the average annual growth rate of the same during last five years;

(c) whether its growth rate is required to be increased while keeping in view the present growth rate; and

(d) if so, the benefit likely to be accrued as a result thereof and whether foreign capital is necessary for increasing the annual growth rate?

WTO deadline to EU for ending sugar sops

2276. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the news-item which appeared in media titled "WTO sets deadline for European Union to end sugar sops";

(b) how it will be helpful for the Indian exporters; and

(c) whether Government is taking necessary action for giving due returns to the small farmers also?

Effect of cheap imports on artisans and craftsmen

2277. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Muslims are artisans and craftsmen whose products are threatened by cheap imports from abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Chinese silk or imported carpets and leather products tend to throw silk weavers in Karnataka or leather-goods makers in Andhra Pradesh and other States out of job;

(d) if so, the reasons identified by Government; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to protect such artisans and craftsmen in Andhra Pradesh?

Issuance of licenses for import of luxury cars

2278. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DGFT has issued licenses for import of luxury cars; on the basis of fake hotel in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) action taken/being taken for investigation of the scam involved; and

(d) action proposed to be taken against the officers found responsible for the same?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Scam in exports and imports in I.T.

2279. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is over-invoicing and under-invoicing scam with regard to exports and imports in Information Technology Companies with regard to our trade with U.S.A;

(b) whether it is a fact that U.S.A. stated that it imported software worth 1.6 billion dollars from India for 2002-03, while India stated that it exported software worth 6.3 billion dollars to U.S.A. during 2002-03;

(c) if so, details of measures taken by Government to recover this huge loss of nearly Rs. 22,000/- crores of foreign exchange to our nation, due to this scam, through Havala operators; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Reduction of customs duty on various items

2280. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to reduce customs duty on various items of goods in view of the rich nations move for abolishing farm subsidies; and

(b) whether Government considered that reduction in custom duty may lead to slowdown of production in the Indian Industry due to unfair competitions?

Change in tariff classification

2281. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that ASEAN is insisting on not having "Substantial Transformation Clause" which stipulates a four digit change in tariff classification;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a lot of trade in Asia suffers from under-invoiced imports;

(c) if so, how would mere value Addition or Local Content Rule to confer origin be considered adequate; and

(d) will Government place a White Paper on the floor of the House on these sensitive issues?

Foreign companies which participated in IITF

†2282. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies which participated in the India International Trade Fair organized in the Pragati Maidan in Delhi from 14-27 November, 2005 and the details thereof;

(b) assessment of success achieved from the fair; and

(c) whether it is a fact that foreign stalls were centre of attraction in comparison to Indian stalls and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

Priority sector status to exporters

2283. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to give priority sector status to exporters;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

Centres opened by IIFT to train people for SMEs

2284. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute for Foreign Trade has opened Centres to train executives for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in specific sectors;

(b) details of this new programme;

(c) whether it is a fact that the IIFT has not been able to meet the demand of the export economy for trained people in foreign trade systems, etc.;

(d) what steps will the IIFT take to broadbase its educational programmes all over the country; and

(e) steps proposed to make available education and training at IIFT to people all over the country?

Loss to Indian exports due to Katrina

2285. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian export has suffered due to Hurricane Katrina in US when shipping companies refused to accept shipment to many US ports affected by Katrina; and

(b) the total estimate of loss suffered in this regard?

Steps to convert low yielding tea areas to high yielding ones.

2286. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether two lakh hectares have been identified as low yielding areas for tea production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to make them high yielding areas?

Three-phase implementation of reforms to help manufacturing sector

2287. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a suggestion has been received by Government for three-phase implementation of reforms to help manufacturing sector to achieve international competitiveness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this calls for labour and tax reforms etc. and flexibility in the existing norms; and

(d) if so, action plan of Government to address this issue?

Flaws in data relating to exports and product classification

2288. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that data relating to exports and product classification (ITCHS) were found to be seriously flawed resulting in wrong projections and calculations;

(b) if so, details in this regard, including the loss suffered on this account, sector-wise; and

(c) what measures have been taken to rectify the situation?

Suggestions of UNCTD

2289. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that United Nations' Conference on Trade Development has asked India to accelerate the development of its manufacturing industry instead of concentrating on IT based services, to maintain its GDP growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to ensure further productivity gains in manufacturing sector?

Production and export of flowers

†2290. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to increase the production and export of flowers under floriculture;

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

(c) the measures being taken by Government to increase the production of flowers in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu and Kashmir as well as to export them?

Withdrawal of MNF status given to Pakistan

2291. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has made it clear that Most Favoured Nation status cannot be granted to India unless Kashmir dispute is resolved;

(b) if so, whether India would also withdraw that status given to Pakistan; and

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

Subsidy to small tea growers

2292. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to the tea leaf processing units functioning in the country alongwith the facilities being provided to these units by Government;

(b) whether the small tea growers have been seriously affected due to the steep fall in tea prices in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by Government to mitigate the suffering of small tea growers;

(d) whether Government proposes to grant subsidy to the small tea growers in the country for growing tea leaves; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Exports and imports

2293. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) details of exports to each country during the last financial year;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) details of imports from each country during the last financial year;

(c) whether Government had set any targets for exports and imports with each country for the present financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) present position of such exports and imports as on date?

Target for global food trade

2294. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though India is one of the major food producers in the world, it has a negligible 1 per cent share in the global food trade;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed a target of 3 per cent by year 2015; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to achieve the target in global food trade?

Setting up of industries in Andhra Pradesh

2295. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) details of the major industries that have been set up in Andhra Pradesh in the last seven years; and

(b) steps taken by Government to extend financial assistance to major industries which are on the brink of closure?

Capital subsidy to leather industry

2296. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to give capital subsidy to leather industry for modernization of tanneries and down-stream leather units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to involve some technical institutes to assess the quantum of subsidy for each unit on a case to case basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) details of subsidy that is proposed to be given to leather units located in Orissa State?

Awareness on intellectual property rights

2297. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 17000 patent applications have been filed in India as compared to over two lakh patent applications filed in China;

(b) if so, whether intellectual property rights awareness is very low in our industry; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken to create adequate awareness to file more applications?

Hanover Technology Fair 2006

†2298. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is going to participate in the Hanover Technology Fair, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the names of institutions which are going to participate in this fair along with the names of products Government are contemplating to display in this fair?

Export of milk products

†2299. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian milk producers can get a substantial market abroad;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to take some steps to export various milk products to the markets abroad;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

India's trade with G-8 countries

2300. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum in terms of dollars of India's trade with G-8 countries during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether any study has been carried out to look at the possibilities of other areas of trade;

(c) what is the percentage of India's trade with G-8 countries when compared with the other countries;

(d) whether it is also a fact that imports from G-8 countries have also gone up in the last three years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Price stabilisation fund for growers of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco

2301. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 1090 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd March, 2003 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that price stabilisation fund to provide relief to the growers of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco in the times of depressed prices has been withdrawn; and

(b) if not, year-wise break-up of funds released so far?

Takeover of administration of deep-sea fishery sector by MPEDA

2302. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Marine Products Export Development Authority is going to takeover the administration of the deep-sea fishery sector from Agriculture Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that the proposals for transfer of this subject are pending with MPEDA;

(c) the date by which this transfer of subjects will occur; and

(d) the details thereof?

Impact of import of vitrified tiles on domestic industry

2303. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of increased import of vitrified tiles into India, especially from China, at low prices thereby hurting the local industry;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that certain producers in other countries have been exempted from the anti-dumping duty imposed by Government on vitrified tiles;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that such exemption is hurting the domestic industry; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose Safeguard Duty, *suo moto*, on vitrified tiles so as to save the domestic industry?

Funds for development of industries in Punjab

2304. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by Government for development of industries in Punjab during the Tenth Plan, district-wise;

(b) the amount released and utilised by Punjab so far; and

(c) the target fixed and achievements made, so far in respect of growth?

Import Duty on soda ash

2305. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present rate of Import Duty on soda ash;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has requested against further reduction of Import Duty rates to protect the domestic soda ash industry against import; and

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

Import of Indian poultry products by Japan

2306. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japan has allowed import of Indian poultry products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what help Government will provide to the farm owners for export of poultry products?

Steps to recapture Chinese market for Indian salt

2307. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether China curtailed its import indents for Indian salt by more than half this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether China has also imposed vigorous quality standards on salt imported from India;

(d) whether Indian salt export industry is severely hit by withdrawal of Chinese patronage; and

(e) if so, steps being taken by Government to recapture the Chinese market for Indian salt?

Contribution of exports in GDP

†2308. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

only country among Brazil, India, China and Russia where value of import is found greater than value of export;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that contribution of exports in GDP in Brazil, China and Russia is greater as compared to India; and

(d) if so, the average annual contribution of the exports in GDP of the above said countries since 2002 till date?

Tax rebates for promotion of exports

†2309. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that tax rebates are given as economic incentive by Government in order to promote exports in the country;

(b) if so, whether economic aid of Rs. 41,029 crores was given as incentive during 2004-05 which was 9 per cent of total value of exports;

(c) if not, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount provided as incentive during the above period under 'Special Agriculture Measure Scheme' under the above said economic incentives?

Approval to Maharashtra Special Economic Zone and Designated Area Act, 2004

2310. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has sent a 'Maharashtra Special Economic Zone and Designated Area Act, 2004 for the administrative approval of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this approval will be given?

Chinese goods in Indian market

†2311. SHRI SURENDRA LATHI:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

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

(a) whether China made items are prevailing at large scale in the country, particularly in North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of the imported items in last three years and what provisions have been laid by Government to import items from China;

(c) whether the demand of Chinese items has increased in the country, particularly in the North-Eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what measures have been taken to protect the market of India made items?

Shortage of civilian personnel in Navy

2312. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy is under acute shortage of civilian personnel to man its major projects at Karwar and Ezhimala, totalling 2000 personnel;

(b) whether the Navy has taken up with Government, its demand for enhancement

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in strength of civilian personnel, to man projects of strategic importance; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

Fleet upgradation by IAF

2313. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IAF is on the move to upgrade all its aircrafts over the next five years;

(b) whether it means that there is a dilution of the need for fresh inductions;

(c) the details of aircrafts that IAF is going to upgrade; and

(d) the period which the IAF is going to take to complete its fleet upgradation?

Talks with American companies selling weapon systems

†2314. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a group of American companies selling weapon-systems and fighter planes held talks with India recently, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the American companies are in the race for having deals in billions with India;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(d) details of the amount in billion dollars spent by Government on purchasing army equipments and out of which the purchase made from America in dollars?

Middlemen in defence deals

2315. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contrary to formal orders, middlemen are still thriving in defence deals of the Government;

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

(c) steps proposed to eliminate completely the agency system in defence purchases?

Recruitment at officer level

†2316. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that problem is being faced with respect to new recruitment at officer level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are considering to formulate a new scheme to attract competent youths into army?

Expiry of lease of Annadel Ground, Shimla

†2317. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Annadel Ground in Shimla was leased out to army for a period of 99 years and the period of this lease has expired;

(b) whether Government has taken a decision to return the ground to the Government of Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, by when this work would be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Fake encounter in Jammu and Kashmir

2318. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has named 14 persons including army officers as responsible for the fake encounter in Pathribal, Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) whether, DNA samples were deliberately fudged to help the persons responsible for the encounter; and

(c) if so, the details of the investigation and action taken against those who messed with the DNA test?

Stress and depression among soldiers

2319. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a report of military authorities, our soldiers engaged in low-intensity conflict areas feel very much stressed/depressed as a result of fatigue, which has been resulting in devastating impact on our army personnel; and

(b) whether Government has studied this report and if so, what is the action plan of Government to address this issue?

Title documents of Debolim Airport, Goa

2320. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has title documents of Debolim Airport in Goa in their favour;

(b) if so, date on which the title was acquired;

(c) total area of the land;

(d) total area used by the Airport Authority of India; and

(e) details of the agreement/other document entered into, if any, by Government with the Airport Authority?

Programme of village energy security based on bio-mass

2321. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made announcement that programme of village energy security based on bio-mass will be implemented in 600 villages from 600 districts in the country in the last year;

(b) if so, the details of progress made by Government in this regard;

(c) whether this programme is being implemented successfully and if not, what are the difficulties Government is facing therefor; and

(d) what is the target for the next fiscal year?

Training facilities to Singapore Airforce at Kalaikunda Airbase

2322. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to lend training facilities to Singapore Airforce at Kalaikunda Airbase of the IAF;

(b) what is the duration of the proposed training exercise by the Singapore Airforce, whether IAF will provide all logistic, administrative and maintenance support to Singapore Airforce;

(c) whether the visiting Aircrew will be operating their F-16s; and

(d) if so, whether India has any familiarity with such aircrafts to lend logistics support?

**Abandonment of HS-748
Avro aircrafts**

2323. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought logistic support and lease of PC-3 Maritime Patrol Aircraft from the US in order to phase out the Soviet Built IL-38s which are at their fag end of fatigue and operational service life;

(b) whether India has abandoned the prestigious HS-748 Avro aircrafts in the wake of serious setback resulting from a crash of Avro near Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu in 1999; and

(c) if not, whether DRDO is still working on an indigenous Airborne Early Warning System?

**US offer to lease two PC-3 Orion
aircrafts**

2324. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US has offered to lease two PC-3 Orion reconnaissance aircrafts to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Navy has studied the lease offer to find out whether it meets their needs and is cost-effective;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) when a final decision by the Indian Navy is likely to be taken in this regard?

**Production of F-16 and F-18 Fighter
Planes**

2325. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

produce F-16 and F-18 Fighter Planes in the country; and

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal and details thereof?

**Pending power projects proposal of
Andhra Pradesh**

2326. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any power project proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh have been pending for Central Government approval for over a year;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Central Government for expediting the projects?

MIG accidents

†2327. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many MIG-21 aircrafts have met with accidents during the last three years;

(b) what were the causes of these accidents;

(c) whether any inquiry committee was appointed to find out the various reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Terrorist attacks

2328. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many terrorist attacks were

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

made in the country or near the borders of the country since the last Session of Parliament;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is serious increase in such attacks;

(c) how many civilians and para-military personnel killed or injured; and

(d) what special actions/precautions Government have taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Recruitment drive by Delhi Police

2329. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Police conducted a recruitment drive/test for the post of Constable etc.; if so, the details thereof including the number of applicants, the number of candidates finally selected and offered employment;

(b) whether it is a fact that a candidate who topped the test and had a distinguished academic record was asked to shell out a sum of Rs. 4 lakhs before he could be given an appointment letter; and

(c) whether Government propose to probe the matter and if not, the reasons therefor?

Non-registration of crimes

2330. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a decline in the incidences of IPC crimes despite increase in population;

(b) if so, whether it is not a fact that this decline has been due to non-registration of crimes;

(c) what are the reasons and background for non-registration of crimes; and

(d) what are the measures conceived and taken up to avert this situation and encourage due registration of crimes by the station houses concerned?

Steps to bring terrorists into the mainstream

†2331. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any special steps to bring the terrorists, operating in North-Eastern States back into the mainstream;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the results achieved so far in this regard;

(d) the State-wise number of terrorist organizations in North-Eastern States and the number out of those with whom Government have made any contact; and

(e) the policy of Government with regard to making contacts with other terrorist outfits?

Inclusion of Tulu language in Eighth Schedule of Constitution

2332. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has requested the Union Government to include Tulu language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution; and

(b) since Tulu is widely spoken on the Karnataka coast, whether Government would take steps to amend the Constitution to include Tulu in the Eighth Schedule?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Help to tackle Naxalites to Andhra Pradesh

2333. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh is going to follow Jammu and Kashmir model to tackle Naxalites in the State;

(b) what is the Jammu and Kashmir model; and

(c) whether the Ministry is extending any help to Andhra Pradesh in tackling Naxalites?

High-tech security of Jagannath Temple, Puri (Orissa)

2334. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide high-tech security system in the 12th century Lord Jagannath Temple in Puri, Orissa which contains valuable ornaments and precious stones worth hundreds of crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the existing security system in the temple is not foolproof;

(c) whether the Centre propose to help the cash-strapped State both physically and financially to upgrade their security system in the above holy temple; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Indo-US treaty on criminal matters

2335. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-US treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters came into force with both countries formally signing instruments of ratification on 4th October, 2005;

(b) if so, whether treaty is meant for further cooperation between India and USA to complete criminal activities, drug trafficking and scourge of terrorism;

(c) whether this treaty will enhance ability of two countries to pursue their common objective of law enforcement by putting in place a legal mechanism; and

(d) if so, to what extent this treaty has helped both India and US?

Joining of terrorist outfits

2336. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that terrorist group Hizbul Mujahedin has a non-Muslim in its cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have tried to ascertain the circumstances underlying non-Muslim youth joining an anti-national terrorist group;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to motivate non-Muslim youths not to join ultras?

Funds to deal with naxal menace

2337. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are raising funds to deal with all types of problems including Maoist menace;

(b) if so, the details of such funds raised especially for Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the funds were utilized for any purpose so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last one year?

Missing of girls

2338. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that scores of girls aged 8-11 years are reported to be missing from Nadiad District of West Bengal and other States like Orissa, Jharkhand etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have been able to identify the rackets involved in lifting the girls; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to trace the girls?

Corruption in recruitment

†2339. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the corruption in the recruitment of G.D. Constable and Constable Driver in Delhi Police;

(b) whether Government had received complaints of corruption in previous recruitments also; and

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

Surrender package for Naxalites

2340. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State

Governments have announced a district level surrender package to Naxalites who discard arms;

(b) what are the features of surrender package announced; and

(c) whether this package is interlinked with any of the packages announced by the Centre?

Permanent shelters for Tsunami victims

2341. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many permanent shelters for the Tsunami affected non-tribal and tribal families are going to be constructed at South Andaman, Little Andaman and Campbell Bay in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, area-wise; and

(b) how much funds have been provided to the A&N Administration for the purpose as at (a) above?

Exploitation of women

†2342. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that girls and women are being brought from Jharkhand and other States to Delhi and other metropolitan cities in large numbers for working as domestic help;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the incidents of mental and physical exploitation of such girls and women;

(c) whether Government have enquired into such incidents; and

(d) if so, what are the findings thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Cases registered in various police stations relating to ragging

†2343. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cases registered in various police stations relating to ragging in educational institutions in the country;

(b) the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware of the cases of suicides, and leaving studies by the victims and the cases of harassment and murders in the name of ragging;

(d) the police station-wise/district-wise/State-wise/Union Territory-wise details thereof; and

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

Persons awarded capital punishment

2344. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons awarded capital punishment for the crimes committed by them, during the last five years;

(b) the number of those executed;

(c) in how many cases capital punishment has been converted into life imprisonment during that period; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to do away with the capital punishment and if so, the details thereof?

Losses due to floods

2345. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of damage to the crops-human life, cattle, habitation and highways due to floods in the various parts of the country in last three years, up to date;

(b) the details in terms of value of the damaged crops and the area affected, human lives lost, cattle drowned, houses collapsed and highways damaged, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the steps taken/contemplated to be taken, to find a permanent solution to endemic floods;

(d) whether Government have a mechanism to monitor the actual disbursal of help to the affected persons, so that the scam is not repeated; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

Hogenakenal border dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

2346. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Centre that a new controversy has arisen between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu about the ownership of an island near the Hogenakenal Falls—to tourist spot;

(b) what are the steps taken by the Centre to settle the ownership dispute; and

(c) whether Government would undertake a joint survey under the supervision of Central officials to get the truth?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Maintaining of traffic signals in
Delhi and other cities**

2347. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of agencies which look after and maintain traffic signals in the Metros namely Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai and the amount payable annually with details of amount paid in the last three years; and

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of signals including some individual points do not work in these cities particularly Delhi and these remain unattended for months together; if so, the reasons therefor?

Crimes against women

2348. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the increasing incidents of crimes against women are having bad impact on the visiting tourists of the capital; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

Extortion of money by Constables

†2349. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Constables of Delhi Police extort money from 'Rehdiwalas' who do their business in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such complaints received during the last three years together with the number of Constables against

whom action was taken and the number out of those who were suspended?

Dowry deaths

2350. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of dowry deaths have been reported during the last three years;

(b) in how many such cases, imprisonment has been awarded to wrong doers and the number of cases which are still in process/investigation; and

(c) what stringent steps are being taken to curb the inhuman act of dowry deaths?

Rice subsidy for Sri Lankan refugees

2351. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had withdrawn the rice subsidy scheme for Sri Lankan Tamil refugees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Tamil Nadu had demanded restoration of rice subsidy for Sri Lankan refugees; and

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

Expansion of CISF

2352. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CISF had grown large and unwieldy recently;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that CISF has undertaken diverse protection duties without any specialisation being imparted to its Jawans;

(c) what steps are proposed to put a limit to the growth of the CISF;

(d) whether it is also a fact that top management of CISF is unable to control the behaviour of Jawans in CISF; and

(e) the measures proposed to split the CISF into different bodies?

Delhi based NGOs receiving foreign aid

2353. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Non-Governmental Organization working in Delhi/New Delhi are receiving foreign aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with field of work and foreign institutions/ persons giving and taking such aid; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to monitor the activities of such Non-Governmental Organizations?

Accessibility to ITBP border posts

2354. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 50 out of 140 ITBP border posts could be accessed through roads;

(b) if so, the details of such accessible roads;

(c) the details of such inaccessible roads;

(d) the steps taken in this direction for accessing all the roads;

(e) whether Government are facing any financial crunch in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Talks with NDFB

2355. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons as to why the Government have not yet initiated the formal discussion with the armed outfit National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) though both have agreed upon to resolve the crisis through negotiation after having the cease fire agreement signed;

(b) whether the NDFB has raised any specific demands before Government so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Discrimination in providing freedom fighters pensions

2356. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of freedom fighters and Indian National Army persons in the country, as on 30th September, 2005;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a vast difference in pension payment between the freedom fighters and Indian National Army persons;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Rail/road facilities on the pattern of freedom fighters are provided to the Indian National Army persons; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Union Government to do away the discrimination and by when?

Use of satellite phones by terrorists

2357. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the security forces are facing a lot of problems in tackling terrorism since the increased use of satellite phones by terrorists;

(b) if so, whether this issue was discussed in the meeting of senior officers in the ministry of Home Affairs;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to provide Satellite phone interceptor to States which are fighting against terrorists;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Meeting of National Integration Council

2358. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Integration Council met in New Delhi on August 31, 2005 for the first time since 1992;

(b) if so, the issues considered and the decisions taken by the Council therein, for promoting social amity; and

(c) the steps since taken in the light thereof?

Involvement of Pak terrorists in bomb explosion

†2359. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been found that Pakistani terrorists are involved

in the recent bomb-explosions in Delhi and J & K;

(b) if so, whether Government have discussed this matter with the Government of Pakistan;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

(d) the stringent steps being taken by Government to finish terrorism?

Damage to fencing at Indo-Bangla border

2360. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the fencing erected along the Indo-Bangladesh border has been washed away in the floods;

(b) whether an inspection has been carried out to assess the damage to the pillars and the barbed wire;

(c) whether it is also a fact that illegal immigrants from Bangladesh are swimming under the raised fencing and infiltrating into India; and

(d) what steps Government propose to stop such infiltration?

Families living near the barbed wire fencing in Indian territory

2361. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the population falling beyond the barbed wire fencing in the Indian territory in the State of Tripura along the international border;

(b) whether Government are aware of the miseries that these families are facing everyday; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps Government are going to take to make alternative arrangement for these families?

Making police system women friendly

2362. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the multipronged approach in the police system to make it more women friendly and go for gender sensitization;

(b) what is the strength of the men police and women police in each State and the percentage of the latter out of the total strength of police;

(c) which of the States have gone so well in promoting gender sensitization and women police much ahead of others with details; and

(d) whether this example and strategy would be taken cognizance for follow up by other States?

Replacement of barbed wire with fencing with thorny bamboo

2363. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal of having low cost biotic fencing-replacing barbed wire with thorny bamboo along the 4095 kms. Indo-Bangla border as suggested by the National Mission on bamboo application;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Incidents of looting and killing in trains

†2364. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of looting and killing that have taken place in the trains of North and Central Railways during the year 2004-05 and during 2005-06 so far; and

(b) the details of measures taken and proposed to be taken by Government in the near future to effectively prevent and stop these incidents?

Intelligence failure in bomb blasts in Delhi

2365. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRI AJAY SINGH
CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a intelligence failure in the recent bomb blasts in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to improve the intelligence network in Delhi?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Smuggling of narcotics

†2366. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA
NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that smuggling of narcotics in the country is constantly rising and Delhi is being used as a hub for smuggling of narcotics by the smugglers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of persons consuming cocaine is constantly rising in Delhi and its consumption is around 15 kilogram;

(c) if so, whether Government would enact a stringent law to prevent the smuggling of narcotics and to prevent the people from drug addiction;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of new Wind Power Projects

2367. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encouraging for setting up of new Wind Power Projects;

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

(c) the names of companies who have shown interest in Wind Power Projects and have been given financial assistance by Central Government?

Steering group on hydrogen energy

2368. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a steering group on hydrogen energy;

(b) if so, the composition of the group;

(c) whether the group submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features of the reports;

(e) whether Government propose to implement the recommendations of the report;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure/investment involved therein; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Loan sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh by IREDA

2369. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 83 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd November, 2005 and state:

(a) what are the reasons that IREDA which has sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh an amount of Rs. 77.05 crores for 2004-05 disbursement was only Rs. 26 crores; and

(b) the details of guidelines issued for sanction of loan by IREDA and other agencies for setting up of non-conventional energy projects in the country?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

T & D losses in Andhra Pradesh

2370. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of electricity lost in transmission and distribution during the last one and half year in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the estimated loss in terms of rupees due to this transmission loss?

Creation of a chain of power stations

2371. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are working on a comprehensive scheme to create a chain of power stations along the Indian coast;

(b) if so, whether the locations have been identified by Government;

(c) if so, the details of locations identified in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) what is the anticipated power that is going to be generated through the proposed coastal power stations?

Supply of gas to Dabhol Power Plant

2372. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issues related to the supply of gas to the Dabhol Power Plant have been sorted out;

(b) if so, what are the gas requirements of the plant, and how the supply is to be assured; and

(c) if so, what arrangements have been arrived at in this regard?

Electrification of villages during the Tenth Plan

†2373. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages proposed to be electrified by Government during Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any schedule or plan has been proposed by Government for this purpose;

(c) whether Government propose to include NGOs, unemployed youths and co-operatives for this purpose; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

Additional quantity demand of coal and natural gas of Maharashtra

†2374. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has demanded more coal and natural gas from the Centre in order to meet the power shortage in the State which is presently 2900 to 3000mw;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering on the matter and by when the additional quantity of coal and natural gas would be supplied; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Status of Raudwa Thermal Power Plant in Jharkhand

†2375. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the 2000 MW thermal power plant under National Thermal Power Corporation foundation

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

stone was laid in 1999 at Raudwa in Chatra district of Jharkhand State;

(b) whether NTPC intends to complete this project;

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

(d) whether Jharkhand Government has taken any initiative in this regard?

Load shedding for industries in Maharashtra

2376. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present quantum of load shedding for the industries in Maharashtra;

(b) at what rate the power demand in the State is rising annually;

(c) what long term steps are being taken to save the State industries from collapse; and

(d) by when the Dabhol plant is likely to start functioning and the target of zero load shedding in the State is expected to be achieved?

Installation of electronic meter with sensor technology

2377. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electronic meter with sensor technology installed forcibly by BSES and NDPL in Delhi records consumption of power 150 times more than the normal pulse if there is a faulty wiring on the premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has laid down standards for providing separate service cable for individual connections;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not following the same;

(e) the types of power meter approved by BIS; and

(f) whether it is mandatory to have electronic meter with sensor technology and if not, reasons for installing such meters forcibly by BSES and NDPL?

International bidding for lower tariffs

2378. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to allow power generation and distribution only through competitive global bidding to ensure lower tariffs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken for providing "Electricity to all" in the next five year?

Hydro power plants in the western part of the country

2379. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number with capacity of hydro plants that are running in the western parts of the country particularly Maharashtra State;

(b) whether Government are considering any proposal to tap resource for hydro projects in the western part of the country, particularly in Maharashtra State;

(c) if so, the details thereof by indicating how much of power will be generated from this region; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Electrification of villages by REC

‡2380. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages which have been provided with electricity by R.E.C. so far;

(b) the time likely to be taken for the completion of the said project, alongwith the details of remaining electrification work for all the villages at present; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise?

Thermal power plants in the country

‡2381. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) total number of thermal power plants in the country at present;

(b) whether there is dearth of coal in these thermal power plants;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to overcome this dearth of coal;

(d) whether Kanti thermal power plant of Bihar is achieving its set-target; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken to achieve the target?

Loans for the Urban Power Projects expansion in Maharashtra

2382. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has sought loans amounting to Rs. 9,600 crore from the Power Finance Corporation and the Rural Electrification Corporation to finance the Urban Power Projects expansion (1,400 MW), Khapar

Kheda Thermal Project (500 MW) and a joint venture project with Chhattisgarh Electricity Board;

(b) if so, the details of loans sought from each Corporation;

(c) whether the loans have been granted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Incentives under APDRAP

2383. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that during the first two years of the APDRP in the Tenth Plan period, many States have received incentives through reduction in audited losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the technical and commercial losses in power sector would come down to 15 per cent in 5 years from 2002-03; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Fraud in Damodar Valley Corporation

‡2384. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a fraud to the tune of crores of rupees is taking place in the Damodar Valley Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking;

(b) whether advisers for coal have been appointed inspite of the fact that such appointments have been termed a unnecessary in enquiry reports for the year 2002 and 2003 respectively;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the irregularities on a large scale had been confirmed in the audit reports during the last five years; and

(d) what action has been taken in relation to these appointments made arbitrarily by the Government, together with the details thereof?

Rationalization of the power tariff rates

2385. SHRIMATI SUKHBUN KAUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with privatization of power distribution in different States, the power tariffs have gone awry with the result that while a consumer consuming 100 units in Delhi pays Rs. 252 against just Rs. 99 in Mumbai and double what one pays in Chennai;

(b) if so, the comparative tariff for 100, 200, 400 and 600 units in the different metropolises;

(c) the reasons for such vastly different discriminative tariffs; and

(d) the steps taken and being taken to rationalize the tariff rates in different metropolises and States, so as to bring down the rates especially for the domestic and agricultural sector?

Supply of power to deficit States by Power Grid

2386. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Ministry and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have launched

a crucial exercise in order to bring in at least 5,696 MW of surplus power available with captive power plants in national grid to tackle increasing power deficit across the country;

(b) whether India has a total installed capacity of captive power of 18,740 MW of which so far 14,636 MW has been connected to grid; and

(c) if so, to what extent it will be helpful to Power Grid to supply power to deficit States?

Corruption in CAPART

†2387. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for assigning financial matters to CAPART's officers/employees while they are on the verge of their retirement; the reason for not taking any action by the Government despite indulgence of these officers in corruption;

(b) the number of officers/employees in CAPART against whom complaints of corruption/irregularity were received during last 5 years; the details of their names and designations; the details of action taken by the Government against them; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check corruption/irregularities in CAPART?

Allocation of funds under NFFWP

2388. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to States for implementing the Food for Work Programme for the last three years, State wise and year-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that many State Governments failed to utilize the Central fund allocated to this scheme; and

(c) if so, details of the utilization of funds by State Government, State-wise and year-wise?

Implementation of National Food for Work Programme

2389. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in the country where National Food for Work Programme is being implemented in the country, State-wise;

(b) the criterion being adopted for the implementation of the programme and the selection of a district for the purpose;

(c) whether Government propose to extend the programme to more districts of the country;

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

(e) whether Government propose to implement the scheme in areas ravaged by natural calamities; and

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

Cess on diesel collected from Punjab for PMGSY

2390. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state that under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), how much amount by way of cess of Re. 1/- per ltr. on diesel has been collected from Punjab during the last five years, year-wise and the amount allocated to the State, year-wise for

providing connectivity to new habitations in rural areas and improvement of routes of Core Network of rural roads?

Construction of new roads under PMGSY

†2391. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision in PMGSY to construct new roads by including the roads constructed earlier by PWD and other Government agencies;

(b) if so, the length of roads in kilometres constructed during the last three years under PMGSY in Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa after the acquisition under this scheme togetherwith the area of acquisition;

(c) what provisions have been made for construction of new roads after the acquisition; and

(d) if there are no provisions for acquisition, the State-wise details of the action taken against the officers involved in construction of such roads?

Forwarding of proposals for R.W.S. and Environmental Sanitation Project of A.P. to World Bank

2392. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from State Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding Rural Drinking Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project for forwarding them to the World Bank through the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA);

(b) if so, the status of the above said proposal;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the reasons for delay in forwarding the above said proposal to DEA; and

(d) by when the above said proposal will be sent to the World Bank?

Allocation of more funds under PMGSY to Gujarat

2393. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has asked Government for allocation of more funds and upgradation for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) whether in this scheme Gujarat has been put to a disadvantageous position as allocation of grant is on the basis of habitations remaining to be connected;

(c) whether as a result, these roads are not near the standard envisaged in the PMGSY; and

(d) whether Government would give allocation weightage during allotment of amount to State?

Supply of foodgrains to States

2394. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the additional quantum of foodgrains sought by Government under the National Food for Work Programme during 2005; and

(b) the action taken so far by Government for the supply of foodgrains and if not, what action has been taken alongwith the reasons therefor?

BPL census

2395. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BPL census has been carried out in the States after 1997;

(b) if so, what are the results of the census, the State-wise estimates thereof; and

(c) if census figures are not available, what steps are being considered by Government with regard to issual of new BPL cards?

UNICEF's assistance for rural sanitation campaign in Karnataka

2396. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government with UNICEF has funded the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) in rural sanitation campaign in Karnataka;

(b) how many villages does this scheme cover and what would be the project cost and the funds released by the Centre;

(c) will this programme be interlinked with the "Nirmala Grama" Yojana;

(d) has Government noticed the observations made by UNICEF representative Michells St. Lot that only 22 per cent of entire nation has access to sanitation; and

(e) what are the initiatives Government has proposed to increase rural sanitation?

Upliftment of rural areas

2397. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's proposed schemes for upliftment of rural India have failed to achieve the target due to inadequate mechanism of dissemination of information amongst the rural population;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose or have taken to give due publicity of the schemes in the rural areas of the country;

(c) the system for monitoring the progress of the implementation of such schemes; and

(d) as large part of rural India is out of reach of print/electronic media, whether Government will involve the elected public representatives for proper implementation of the scheme?

Reforms in rural drinking water supply sector

2398. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts where Union Government has started reforms in rural drinking water supply, State-wise;

(b) the number of drinking water schemes initiated during the Ninth Plan period and the number of villages benefited under the scheme during the same period; and

(c) the target set for Tenth Plan to include more villages alongwith the progress made so far, the financial assistance provided to each State under different water schemes?

Projects under RGNDM projects

2399. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission have been launched;

(b) if so, details of the funds allocated to each projects in different States, district-wise details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are projects pending for completion in various districts;

(d) if so, details of the unfinished projects under this scheme in different States with particular reference to Alappuzha in Kerala; and

(e) the reasons for the delay?

Allocation to Rajasthan for rural development

2400. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated by Government for all the segments of the rural development of Rajasthan during the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) the amounts released so far;

(c) which are the various segments/schemes for whom, the said amounts have been allocated; and

(d) on ground, what actual benefits have occurred thereof?

Completion of metalling work in motor road under PMGSY in Uttaranchal

†2401. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the fact that Pauri Satyakhal-Bara-Dehalchauri motor able road in the District Pauri Garhwal of Uttaranchal was constructed ten years ago under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) whether it is a fact that even the metalling work of this motor able road has not yet been completed as a result of which thousands of rural people are facing inconvenience in reaching to Headquarter; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue necessary guidelines for metalling these roads and if so, by when this road would be metalled?

Implementation of SGSY in Uttaranchal

2402. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana is being implemented by Government in the State of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the financial assistance provided by Government for the State during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what is the actual utilization of the budgetary allocation during this period, year-wise, district-wise and block-wise in Uttaranchal?

Funds for Swajaldhara Scheme

2403. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of Swajaldhara launched by Government in the year 2003 is being implemented as a demand-driven community managed and decentralised programme in the States;

(b) whether it is a fact that it has made tremendous progress in Gujarat State;

(c) whether Gujarat has requested Government that the funds allocated under this programme is inadequate;

(d) whether it is a fact that State Government of Gujarat has requested for enhancement of allocation of funds, for increased demand in the State; and

(e) the response of Government thereto?

Supplying sub-standard foodgrains to Karnataka under SGRY

2404. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has returned the sub-standard foodgrains supplied by the Government under Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains returned;

(c) the reasons for supplying sub-standard foodgrains to Karnataka through Food Corporation of India; and

(d) the steps taken to dispatch good quality foodgrains to Karnataka under the above Yojana?

Implementation of SGRY

2405. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana is functioning in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the details of districts covered under the SGRY?

IWDP Projects

2406. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integrated Waste Lands Development Project has been successful in decreasing the waste land in the country;

(b) if so, the number of projects under IWDP sanctioned for the last three years and the number of projects to be sanctioned during the Tenth Plan period to reduce the waste land in the country; and

(c) by when Government is going to develop all the waste land in the country?

Allocation for rural cleanliness programme in Rajasthan

†2407. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds stipulated for rural cleanliness programme in Rajasthan for the year, 2005-06;

(b) the number of districts of Rajasthan covered under this programme; and

(c) the district-wise details in this regard?

Total rural hygiene and sanitation

2408. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to attain the targets set for total rural hygiene and sanitation, the Ministry of Rural Development has suggested amendment to Panchayati Raj Act to include a clause to make, only those with toilets in their dwellings, eligible to contest Panchayat polls;

(b) whether the Ministry has written to all Chief Ministers of the States to this effect; and

(c) whether Government has asked the States to prevail upon their employees

including Anganwadi workers and also PDS shopowners to build toilets in their dwellings or face severe consequences of pay/wage cut or cancellation of shop licenses?

Barren land in the country

†2409. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of barren land that is estimated to be found in the country and the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether Government would get the barren land utilized to ensure rural employment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Unspent amount under PMGSY

2410. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States which failed to claim their share of funds from the Centre under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) the details of the States which failed to spend the amount released to them under PMGSY;

(c) the details of villages with population of over 1,000 not connected with roads, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to make PMGSY successful?

Exemption of textiles from VAT purview

2411. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all textile

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

items, which are now excluded from VAT will attract VAT from next year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some States are opposing to include textile items from VAT's purview;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the percentage of tax going to be imposed on textile items; and

(e) what the Ministry is doing in this regard to convince the Finance Ministry to exempt textiles from VAT's purview?

Action plan for NTC mills

†2412. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER
SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to close down the 65 mills of National Textiles Corporation, run 30 mills in joint venture with private sector and modernize 22 mills;

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

(c) whether Government have formulated any action plan regarding all the said mills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the said action plan would be implemented finally?

Minimum Support Price for cotton

2413. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to securing fair value for the cotton produced by farmers, a Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed

by Government every year and for maintaining the MSP the Cotton Corporation of India is adequately subsidized for procurement of cotton stock at the MSP; and

(b) whether no such subsidy is given by Central Government to the Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd. (MSCCGMFL), the sole cotton procurement agency in Maharashtra, nor has this federation been notified by Government as an agent for cotton procurement, despite repeated request by the Maharashtra Government, if so, the reason for such disparity?

Effect of import of Chinese knitted fabrics on local producers

2414. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether increasing imports of knitted fabrics from China by exporters are causing serious threat to local producers;

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

(c) whether it is proposed to reduce the excise duty to help the local producers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Chhattisgarh Sericulture Project

†2415. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1690 given in the Rajya Sabha on 16th March, 2005 and state:

(a) the names of districts of Chhattisgarh

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in which silk project has been implemented alongwith the date of such implementation;

(b) the works on which funds have been spent in these districts during the last three years, alongwith the amount of such funds;

(c) the dates on which those eleven N.G.Os, who have been paid more than rupees 56 lakhs carried out propagation in the district of Jashpur; and

(d) what are the district-wise achievements of this project in the State of Chhattisgarh?

Assistance to craftsmen and weavers in Uttaranchal

2416. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target has been fixed by Government to give financial assistance to craftsmen and weavers under the Self-Employment Scheme in Uttaranchal, especially in remote areas of the State; and

(b) if so, the number of craftsmen and weavers who have been benefited so far under this scheme in Uttaranchal, district-wise and the block-wise?

Involvement of private parties in setting up of textile parks

2417. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to involve private parties to set up 25 integrated textile parks in the country within a span of two years;

(b) if so, the number of private parties with locations which have so far shown interest in the scheme;

(c) whether any subsidy would be given to the parties, if so, under what conditions; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue in the event of all the 25 textile parks become operational?

Development of handloom sector

2418. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether various schemes pertaining to the development of handloom sector are in vogue in the country;

(b) if so, the details of schemes;

(c) the Central fund allotment to States in this regard, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(d) whether Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for development of handloom in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action Government have taken so far in this regard?

Rehabilitation of persons unemployed due to closure of textile units

2419. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons rendered unemployed by closure of textile units;

(b) the number of persons rehabilitated during the past three years; and

(c) the details of schemes implemented for rehabilitation of retrenched workers?

Design centre at Madurai

2420. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether design centres have been set up at different locations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any such centre is being set up at Madurai;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Adverse effect of Chinese garments

2421. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chinese garments sold in Indian markets have adversely affected the Indian Textile Industry; and
- (b) if so, how Government propose to meet the situation?

NEW DELHI;
The 8th December, 2005
Agrahayana 17, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

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(Ministry-wise)

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