

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the December 15, 2005/Agrahayana 24, 1927 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions —155

Rural industries in North Eastern Region

2422. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps being taken by Government for development and promotion of rural industries in the North Eastern Region;

(b) the details of plans formulated and being implemented in the region; and

(c) the amount sanctioned and spent under the schemes during the last three years?

Centrally sponsored schemes for ARIs

2423. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally sponsored schemes implemented for developing agro-rural industries;

(b) the details of funds allocated during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect agro-rural industries from competition by providing technology support?

Beneficiaries of PMRY in Andhra Pradesh

2424. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 131 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th November, 2005 and state:

(a) the reasons for reduction in the number of beneficiaries in 2004-05 as compared to 2003-04;

(b) whether Government have sent any communication to Government of Andhra Pradesh for not reporting utilization of funds under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the year under review; and

(c) whether it is mandatory to send the reports once in every quarter?

Production of items using agro and rural resources

2425. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units engaged in production of various items using agro and other rural resources, including human resource, as inputs in various parts of the country as on 31st March of 1997, 2000, 2003 and 2005;

(b) the details of items, majority of these units have produced in terms of volume and value during the above stated periods;

(c) the number of persons gainfully engaged period-wise therein; and

(d) the steps taken, if any, for enhancing/encouraging agro and rural industries?

Uranium deposits

2426. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has tied up the medium term fuel supplies for nuclear energy programme of generating 13,000 m.w. of power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that country is developing indigenous air borne survey instruments to locate more deposits of Uranium; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Government dues on coal companies

2427. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of money is to be paid by various Government owned companies including NTPC/power plants to public sector coal companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken/proposed to be taken to clear the dues by Government owned companies to these coal companies?

CBI raids in coal companies

2428. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), alongwith the vigilance units of the organization conducted raids on the premises of coal companies in the country on 22nd November, 2005 for various irregularities committed there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the departmental action taken by Government against the officers of coal companies for committing various irregularities?

Profit earned by S.E.C.L.

†2429. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the profits of S.E.C.L. during the last five years, year-wise; and

(b) the details of basic facilities provided by S.E.C.L. in the affected areas during the last five years year-wise?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Supply of coal for power plant in Maharashtra

2430. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have asked for supply of adequate coal of about 0.5 million MT per year for captive power plant within MIHAN-SEZ from Western Coalfields Ltd;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government decision in this regard?

Purchase of tyres by CIL

2431. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flat tyres are threatening to defeat CIL's plans of executing the target of 343 million tonnes coal production;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a global tender for buying tyres floated by CIL evolved poor response; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by CIL in this regard?

Abandoning of CCL coal mines in Jharkhand

2432. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of abandones Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) mines in Jharkhand alongwith the reasons for abandoning them;

(b) whether CCL is aware that local persons in connivance with its officials/guards extract coal illegally from these mines dangerously;

(c) if so, the quantum of coal extracted illegally, every year;

(d) how many persons so far have been killed while extracting coal illegally from CCL's abandoned mines; and

(e) the action taken against the CCL for not protecting theft of coal from its abandoned mines?

Pilot Project scheme in Karnataka

2433. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices functioning in Karnataka;

(b) the number of new post offices proposed to be opened during 2005-06 in Karnataka;

(c) whether there is any proposal to implement a pilot project at present being implemented in Maharashtra for the people to remit the money in post offices as well as avail credit; and

(d) what are the other various people friendly measures taken up in Karnataka during 2005-06?

Construction of Dharampuri Post Office building

2434. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new building for Dharampuri Head Post Office in Tamil Nadu has been constructed long back;

(b) if so, whether it has not been opened yet;

(c) the reasons for not opening it; and

(d) by when it would be opened?

Digital divide between rural and urban areas

2435. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the digital divide between rural and urban areas is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the digital divide has increased after the removal of mandatory provision of rural telecom services by private telecom operators in 2003; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action plan of Government to reverse the trend?

Reform in telecom sector

2436. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that tariff on STD and ISD calls is still not internationally competitive; and

(b) if so, what steps are being contemplated to further reforms in the telecommunication sector?

Investment by MTNL in overseas telecom services

2437. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the market

share of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has been declining over the last few years on account of the competition posed by private players with their international quality service and professional approach;

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

(c) what measures are initiated to match the service quality of private players and regain the lost ground;

(d) whether MTNL has been permitted to invest in overseas telecom firms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof with expected returns?

Introduction of 'three-in-one' service

2438. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL has introduced 'three-in-one' service for its subscribers *w.e.f.* November 2005, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the service is on existing land-line connections, and whether the service is within the reach of every subscriber; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Subsidy for USO fund

2439. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India would bring down

subsidy for universal services obligation fund from Rs. 21,000 crore to 6500 crore over next 5 years;

(b) if so, by what time a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;

(c) whether telecom regulator has estimated that if the present regime of disbursing USO fund is continued, then Government will have to fork out Rs. 21000 crore by 2010 to achieve targets of reaching phones to villages; and

(d) if so, by when this change of permanent mobile phones in rural areas will be decided?

Disruption of Dolphin services

2440. SHRIMATI MOHSINA
KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

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

(a) whether on 24th of October MTNL Dolphin Network was not in proper functioning gear;

(b) if so, whether this was due to the mass scale repatriation of senior and middle level officers of Indian Telecommunication Service (ITS); and

(c) what "reliable system" has been evolved by Government to ensure that communication services especially relating to Mobile are not adversely affected due to random episodes as happened this time?

Installation of WLL towers in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh

†2441. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

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

(a) whether BSNL are installing WLL towers in rural areas;

(b) if so, the target thereof in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra divisions during the current financial year;

(c) whether delay is being caused in this work;

(d) if so, whether it is causing benefit to the mobile companies in private sector; and

(e) the details of the action being taken against the guilty officials in this regard?

STD/ISD rates

2442. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rates of STD/ISD facilities are uniform all over the country;

(b) if so, how people in cities like Pune and elsewhere charge arbitrary rates from the customers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to ensure uniform rates and facilities all over India?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sea cable for International Call Traffic

2443. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for a joint venture of MTNL and BSNL for setting up a sea cable for International Call Traffic; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the likely date of the commencement of the work?

Bandwidth Tariffs

2444. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to and fro International Long Distance (ILD) bandwidth tariffs have come down by about 90 per cent during the last 5 years;

(b) if so, what has been the year-on-year fall in international bandwidth tariff during the last five years; and

(c) to what extent the consumers have been benefited from this fall in tariff?

BSNL towers in UP

2445. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of BSNL towers for mobile telephony installed in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the range of each of the tower and the towers which have not been working properly for the last six months and which have not been providing proper connectivity to the subscribers; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problems?

MTNL towers in Delhi

2446. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of places in Delhi where the MTNL towers for mobile telephony have been installed;

(b) the towers which have not been working properly for the last six months and which have not been providing proper connectivity to the subscribers; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problem?

Expansion of telecom services in Rajasthan

2447. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether development and expansion of telecommunication has remained slow in rural and urban areas in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for accelerating the development and expansion of

telecommunication in the State of Rajasthan;
and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Loop holes in cyber laws

2448. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are plugging the loop-holes in cyber law by attuning adequately e-capable to counter-e-criminality;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had targeted the wrong people due to the loop-holes existing in the past and present system;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government had paid any compensation to the victims for targeting wrongly;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons for not paying compensation to the innocent persons?

Fake marketing websites

2449. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that multilevel marketing websites are duping large number of people;

(b) if so, the details of the cases lodged throughout India and the action taken on it; and

(c) what preventive steps are to be taken to desist them from putting false claim on the website?

Profit from ILD segment to BSNL

2450. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) does not take tendering route for providing National Long Distance (NLD) services to its Access subscribers;

(b) the details of NLD voice revenues that come from MTNL and other operators, operator-wise; and

(c) the total revenues, net retention and net profit from ILD segment to BSNL during the last one year?

TRAI's attempt to enforce functional order in telecom services

2451. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRAI has attempted to regulate inter-connections between different operators and ensure minimum standards of service and connectivity to subscribers;

(b) whether the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Authority has overturned TRAI's attempts to enforce a functional order in telecom services; and

(c) the reasons for Government remaining passive on such a vital issue?

New schemes for postal services

2452. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any special efforts to ensure better services to its customers in postal services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for which Government are not willing to introduce new scheme; and

(d) the manner in which Government would make its own staff more capable after entry of private players in various postal services, *i.e.*, courier, speed post, parcel, etc.?

Setting up of Bio-IT Park

2453. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are looking for setting up of world's first Bio-IT Park in the country in cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Technology;

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

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has offered a suitable location for establishing such a park;

(d) if so, whether Government have studied such a proposal; and

(e) the decision taken by Government?

Fund allocated for rural telephony in Chhattisgarh

†2454. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3754 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th April, 2005 and state:

(a) the amount that has been allocated to the State of Chhattisgarh during the year 2003-04 out of Rs. 200 crores disbursed under Sarvabhomic Seva Dayitava Nidhi;

(b) the details of the number of villages of Chhattisgarh alongwith the amount of financial assistance provided for Multi Access Radio Relay (M.A.R.R) rural public telephone operations, maintenance and changing them and the number of villages which have been provided public telephone facility, district-wise;

(c) the details of the steps taken in Chhattisgarh to make provisions for rural community phone, rural individual domestic phone and direct exchange lines; and

(d) the details of achievements made in this regard, district-wise?

New Telecom Policy

2455. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Telecom Policy is on the anvil;

(b) whether it is proposed to clip the wings or curtail the powers of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India by transferring certain function to Department of Communication; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the reason therefor?

Depth of towers

2456. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether depth of the towers for receiving the network without any disturbances are as per the norms in the country;

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

(c) whether Government propose to take action against the erring companies; and

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

Printing of telephone directory

2457. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 160 given in Rajya Sabha on 24th November, 2005 and state:

(a) whether TRAI has given its recommendation on printing of telephone directory and directory enquiry services for basic and mobile telephone services;

(b) since how long this recommendation of TRAI is pending; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed within which a decision could be taken looking at the security threat in the country?

Artificial barriers for 'One India' tariff plan

2458. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the artificial barriers found in the way so as to pave the way for introduction on 'One India' tariff plan;

(b) whether any consultations have been held in this regard with the telecom operators;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is working on giving 10 digit telephone numbers for landlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Cyber-cafe in the villages

†2459. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up cyber cafe in the villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main purpose of Government to set up cyber cafes in the villages?

Disinvestment of HTL

2460. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 74 per cent of Government shares in Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd. were disinvested in October, 2001;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether prior to disinvestments the company was earning profits and paying dividends;

(c) whether within six months of disinvestments the company's net worth became negative from positive networth of Rs. 50 crores in March, 2001;

(d) whether the company has been referred to BIFR and manpower reduced by half; and

(e) whether any enquiry has been made by Government to find out the reasons of sudden sickness and financial losses of otherwise a healthy PSU, if not, the reasons therefor?

Modalities on open source support system and e-governance

2461. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some MNCs have recently approached Government to discuss and set the modalities regarding the open source support system and e-governance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how such initiatives would be beneficial to people of the country?

Cyber frauds

2462. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of cyber fraud

in the country that have come to the notice of Government during the last two years;

(b) the details thereof and the action taken by Government in the matter;

(c) whether the existing laws are capable to deal with cyber criminals and punish them adequately; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to pilgrims of Kailash Mansarover

†2463. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assistance being provided to pilgrims of Kailash Mansarover by Government;

(b) whether Sino-Indian Governments have prepared or propose to prepare any scheme jointly to facilitate the Kailash Mansarover yatra;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the present status of the said scheme;

(e) whether transit expenses of the pilgrims of Kailash Mansarover will decline after implementation of the said scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Indo-Pak talks on Siachen

2464. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of progress Government have made in talks with Pakistan over Kashmir in general and Siachen in particular during last six months?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Joint control of India and Pakistan over Kashmir

†2465. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which Government have succeeded so far in resolving the Kashmir problem and the level at which discussions are being held with Pakistan by Government at present and the outcome thereof;

(b) whether Government are also considering upon any option regarding joint control of India and Pakistan over Kashmir;

(c) if so, the concise details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which Government think the possibility of solving the problem appropriate by joint control keeping in view the past attitude of Pakistan?

Discussion with Bangladesh

2466. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the issue that came in the lime-light during recent discussion between the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh;

(b) the issues of convergence and divergence thereof; and

(c) the status of significant development during discussion on terrorism including North-East, barbed wire fencing, transit communication, border crimes, trade and commerce etc.?

Chinese arm supply to Nepal

2467. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is supplying large scale of arms to Nepal, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what would be the impact of such arms supplies by China to Nepal on Indo-Nepal relations; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to counter Chinese influence in Nepal?

Portraying Kashmir as a country

2468. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Voice of America—America's most trusted broadcasting corporation—portrays Kashmir as a country in its website;

(b) if so, whether any Indian monitoring agency has raised its objection; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Missing Indian travellers gone to Pak

†2469. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no trace of about forty six Indian travellers that boarded in the Caravan-e-aman bus which had gone to Pak occupied Kashmir from Srinagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of efforts made by Government to trace them?

Vacancies in Passport Offices

2470. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are number of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

vacancies in different Regional Passport Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such vacancies reported from various RPOs;

(c) whether it is a fact that the work in many RPOs are being offloaded to private parties;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken to fill the existing vacancies at the RPOs; and

(f) the details thereof?

Shortage of staff in Passport Offices

2471. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is steep increase in the number of passports issued by various Regional Passport Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the number of passports being issued every year from the year 2000 to 2004;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the staff strength at the RPOs are not increased in tune with the increasing work load; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to overcome the shortage of staff?

Promotion of Indian culture and Hindi abroad

†2472. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the arrangements made in various embassies for propagation of Indian culture and Hindi;

(b) the activities carried out towards

this goal during the past two years, and the role of ICCR in it; and

(c) the reason for which ICCR has not been entrusted for its empowerment to department of culture?

Routes for cross-border visit

2473. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open more routes to enable people from India and Pakistan to visit their relatives in each others, country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how it is ensured that people return to their respective countries after the allowed time limit;

(d) whether there has been violation of visa restrictions after the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad route was opened; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

Extradition treaties

†2474. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which have signed extradition treaty with India;

(b) the efforts made to sign such treaty with the countries which have not entered into this treaty so far and the reasons for failure despite such efforts;

(c) whether provision of capital punishment in India is the hurdle for such treaties being entered into; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Pakistani help for release of Indian
hostage in Afghanistan**

2475. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had sought Pakistani help to release the hostage in Afghanistan recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Pakistan had offered any assistance in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Agreement in field of science and
technology with U.S.**

2476. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had signed an umbrella agreement on cooperation in the field of science and technology with US;
- (b) whether the delegation had visited Washington for this purpose;
- (c) if so, the composition of such delegation;
- (d) the expenditure incurred by Government thereon; and
- (e) the areas identified for this purpose?

Investment of EPF amount

2477. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether EPFO is examining the feasibility of investing a portion of the funds in equities to generate higher returns to make good the losses;
- (b) if so, whether Government had

worked out the guidelines for this purpose;

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the total corpus of the EPF at present;
- (e) the investment of the private funds in EPFO so far; and
- (f) the utilization of the EPF amount in various categories during the current year, so far?

Compliance of labour laws by MNCs

2478. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Multi National Companies are not following Indian Labour Act;
- (b) whether Indian Labour Act is applicable for the workers of MNCs working in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken by Government to make it compulsory for MNCs to follow Indian Labour Act?

**Technical training and financial
assistance to artisans**

†2479. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government have any system to impart technical training and financial assistance to the artisans belonging to the weaker sections of the society to improve their efficiency with a view to meet international standards of excellence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to promote the interests of artisans of weaker sections of the society in this regard?

Youngsters registered in State Employment Exchanges

2480. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVU-KKARASAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of youngsters registered in the State Employment Exchanges throughout the country who are above SSLC, below SSLC and upto 8th standard; and

(b) the steps taken and the amount allotted to provide employment?

New Pension Scheme

2481. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has offered to manage the New Pension Scheme contributions of the Central Government Employees; and

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

Proposal from Orissa for N.C.L.P.

2482. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa Government has sent project proposals for launching National Child Labour Projects in 5 districts of Orissa *i.e.* Khurda, Puri,

Nayagarh, Bhadrak and Jajpur to the Centre, which is pending with the Centre; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal, and the time-frame within which the above proposal would be sanctioned for launching of the child labour projects?

Denial of basic labour rights to call centre employees

2483. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports are emerging on the inhuman working conditions in BPO/Call Centres and of denial of basic labour rights of employees working in IT sector;

(b) whether NASSCOM has refuted such charges and wanted protection for the IT industry from labour act-related regulations; and

(c) whether under pressure from apex trade union organizations, Government proposes to bring the IT sector under the ambit of ID Act?

Construction of hospital in Santhanagar, Hyderabad

2484. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Director of Insurance Medical Services of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad has sent the proposal along with the Survey Report of UPRNN Ltd., for construction of a Super Speciality Hospital along with an annexe for the attendants, in the premises of ESI Hospital, Santhanagar *Vide* letter No. 38/IMS-2/2005-1, dated 31st January, 2005;

(b) whether he agreed to construct this Super Speciality Hospital during the course of discussion with him by the A.P. Government on 20.01.2005;

(c) if so, whether Government would implement the agreement at the earliest, to enable the wokers of Hyderabad to have Super Speciality Hospital facilities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Mobile dispensary on wheels

2485. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government was requested by Andhra Pradesh Government vide letter No. 36/IMS-2/2005-1 dated 31st January, 2005 to sanction a "Mobile Dispensary on Wheels" to attend patients in Srikakulam district to meet the urgent medical needs of cluster of workers working at different remote areas;

(b) whether he has already agreed to it;

(c) if so, the details of action taken in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government would introduce such "Mobile Dispensaries" in Medak, Mahbubnagar and Nizamabad districts to meet medical needs of cluster of beedi workers who are working at different areas; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Exploitation of labourers by builder mafia

2486. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken by

Government to check the exploitation of labourers by builder mafia regarding their wages, basic amenities and living environment;

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

(c) the necessary steps being taken and proposed items to be taken by Government in this regard?

Demand made by newspaper workers

2487. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether newspaper workers have presented a ten point charter of their demands;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the Government's response thereto?

Schemes for benefit of tea or coffee garden labourers

2488. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers employed in tea or coffee gardens have been facing a lot of problems due to non-availability of various beneficial schemes;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes which have been formulated for the benefits of labourers working in tea and coffee gardens; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to mitigate their sufferings?

Creation of jobs

2489. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs created in public sector and organized public sector in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of persons who lost their jobs due to retrenchment, implementation of policy of privatization, liberalization and globalization and

(c) the strategies Government have adopted to tackle the unemployment crisis in the country?

Employment generation policies

2490. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the latest report of National Sample Survey Organization unemployment rate in urban areas is 53 as against 23 in the rural areas per 1000;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are formulating various policies for employment generation in the urban and rural areas to reduce unemployment rate; and

(c) if so, the details of the action plan?

Unemployment problem

2491. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any effective measures for removing the employment problem in the country;

(b) if so, the details of schemes and programmes formulated by Government, so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Monthly/annual income for individual living Below Poverty Line

2492. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the monthly/annually income fixed by Central Government for an individual living "Below Poverty Line" as on today;

(b) whether a labourer/workman is given 5 kgs. of rice or 6 kgs. of wheat and Rs. 28/- per day towards his salary;

(c) whether this monthly amount of Rs. 840/- is sufficient to meet the family requirements of a labour/workman; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by Government to increase the daily wages of the labour as per the dearness allowance?

Amendment in labour laws

2493. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend labour laws in the country to meet the requirement of foreign direct investment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Migration of labour

2494. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the recurrent droughts, the farm labourer and the farmer with small land-

holding are looking towards bigger towns especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government had prepared any data in this regard for each State/UT;

(d) if so, the records available with Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to curb such a large scale migration to bigger towns?

Functioning of EPFO

2495. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is the trusty and custodian of provident fund belonging to Central Government employees and the task of its day-to-day governance is vest in Commissioner, EPFO;

(b) whether the Board meeting are held periodically and also specially in order to decide emerging issues;

(c) the details of meetings of the Board 'fixed' and 'held' during the last three years till date showing reasons of postponements, wherever arose;

(d) whether EPFO Commissioner's post has been lying vacant for a long time, if so;

(e) since when; and

(f) the reasons therefor?

Incentive for deposits in Employees Provident Fund

2496. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 93 per cent of total members of Employees Provident Fund have a balance of below Rs. 5000 in the EPF account and only 7 per cent have balance more than Rs. 50,000/-;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government are considering the proposal of higher interest rate for employees having deposit less than Rs. 50,000/- in E.P.F. and less interest rate for deposits above Rs. 50,000/- ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Complaints received from Overseas Indians

2497. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the requests/complaints received from the Overseas Indians during the last year and the current year, so far;

(b) the nature of those complaints; and

(c) the steps taken to solve those problems?

Proposal to upgrade the management skills of bureaucrats

2498. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to upgrade the management skills of its

bureaucrats by international management institutes like the Harvard, Wharton and Kellogg of the US;

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

(c) whether Government would experiment with more relevant projects to make bureaucrats change their mindset and to assume a more humane and people friendly disposition?

Shortage of staff in CBI

2499. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of staff at the lower level in the C.B.I.;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any proposal to make up for the shortage of staff and if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon;

(c) whether Government propose to accord an autonomous status to the organization; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when?

Sphere of activities of CBI

2500. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has approached Government to widen its sphere of activity, increase its strength appreciably and to change the mode of recruitment of its officers at various levels;

(b) if so, the details of the revised proposals *vis-a-vis* present position in regard thereto; and

(c) Government's reaction in the matter?

Public grievances

2501. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public grievances received and forwarded to respective Ministries and Departments for redressal during three years ending 31.12.2004 and so far during the year 2005 Ministry/ Department-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of cases which were monitored by department and for which proper redressal was achieved, year-wise and Ministry-wise;

(c) whether any time frame is prescribed for concerned offices to finalize action thereon and percentage of cases in which that is achieved; and

(d) the names of Ministries etc. which failed to take proper action in time and the action taken against such Ministries etc.?

Recommendation of core group on Administrative Reforms

2502. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Core group on Administrative reforms has recommended a proposal of citizens audit of key Government programmes and standardization of Government departments; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy and the likely date of its commencement?

**Bringing more companies under
preview of RTI Act**

2503. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to broad base the Right to Information Act in order to bring more Companies/PSUs/Co-op. Societies under the preview of the said Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Under Secretaries in Central
Secretariat**

2504. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the factors that determine the occurrence of vacancies out of the total number of 1400 Posts of Under Secretaries in the Central Secretariat Service;

(b) the number of vacancies of Under Secretaries as on 1.12.2005 and the number of vacancies likely to arise in the next six months and by when these vacancies will be filled up; and

(c) the measure being taken to remove the stagnation in promotion of CSS offices and to ensure promotion of those Section Officers who have completed at least 12 years of service as on date to make this service comparable with the State Secretariat Services which have become more attractive by way of promotion, time scales etc.?

**Change in Civil Services
examinations**

†2505. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for making changes in the syllabus of Indian Administrative Service is under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Corrupt officers

†2506. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of senior officers who have been found guilty of corruption in the last three years;

(b) the number of officers out of them who have been sent to jail; and

(c) the names of those officers who have been sent to jail after they were found guilty along with the details thereof for the last three years?

Investigation of organized crimes

2507. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent statement of the Director, Central Bureau of Investigation for taking their own decisions towards investigations of organized crimes in the country without taking the permissions or orders of State Government or Judicial authority;

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

(c) whether Government are considering to issue necessary freedom and authority for investigations at various level;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

CBI raids in Kerala

2508. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Government offices in Kerala which were subjected to CBI raids and the amount recovered therefrom the number of officers, against whom cases have been registered and their departments concerned; and

(b) whether Government consider to strengthen the existing machinery to check corruption among officials and whether Government would also consider to provide modern equipments to detect corrupt officials?

Permission for study during service period

2509. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for Government servants to take permission of the competent authority; before taking admission in various regular courses/programmes during the service period;

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

(c) whether it is not mandatory to take permission in case of Government servant taking admission in various correspondence/distance education courses in which no regular classes is involved?

Corruption cases

†2510. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to the Unstarred Question 3797 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th April, 2005 and state:

(a) the number of cases of exposing

corruption have been received by Central Bureau of Investigation during the year 2005;

(b) the number of them have been investigated and whether any protection has been provided to the exposers of these cases;

(c) the details thereof, department-wise; and

(d) the details of the action taken till date to pass and implement the Public Interest Disclosures (Protection of Informer Bill, 2002)?

Functioning of CBI

2511. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has autonomy in its functioning;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to provide more representation from Government in the Committee to select top CBI officials;

(c) whether Government have refused promotion for CBI Officials inspite of recommendation from Central Vigilance Commission; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

LTC to retired employees

†2512. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not providing special facilities for the purpose of travelling to retired senior citizens of Central Government; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) what arrangements are being made to provide the same concessions to such people as they were availing while in service?

Co-terminus staffs

2513. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the staff working on co-terminus basis with Ministers and in various Bodies/Government organizations are eligible for appearing in departmental tests held there from time to time;

(b) if so, the details of the criteria/guidelines of Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to formulate a policy for eligibility of such candidates for departmental tests?

Recommendations of Dr. D.M. Nanjundappa Committee

2514. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of recommendations of Dr. D.M. Nanjundappa Committee that looked into regional imbalances; and

(b) the steps Government have taken as a follow up, thereon?

Proposal for increasing the number of districts in Madhya Pradesh

†2515. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether apart from the ten districts of Madhya Pradesh having development

at par with the national level, there are backward districts also in the State that have acute shortage of infrastructure;

(b) whether Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal to the Planning Commission for increasing the number of districts; and

(c) if so, the action to be taken by the Planning Commission thereon?

Declaring Sundargarh as SEZ

2516. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Orissa MPs have met the Hon'ble Prime Minister with a request to undertake infrastructure development in the State of Orissa and for declaring Sundargarh as a Special Economic Zone (SEZ);

(b) whether the MPs have met other concerned Ministers and submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister and others for accelerated development of this backward State;

(c) if so, the details of the demands so made in the Memorandum; and

(d) what is the action plan of the Central Government to consider these demands with a view to help the cash-strapped State to improve its economy?

Funds for development of BIMARU States

2517. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds for the development of BIMARU (Bihar, MP, Rajasthan, UP) States and other backward

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

regions of the country *i.e.* Orissa are being transferred to other better off States;

(b) whether the low levels of Central assistance to the above backward States has adversely affected the healthcare facilities in these States; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to compensate the above backward regions, especially with reference to Orissa, to improve their health-care infrastructure?

Identification of poor families

2518. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI
BARUPAL:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether programme evaluation study by Planning Commission and Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution suggests that Government should do away with methodology of identifying poor families on the basis of income/expenditure criterion;

(b) whether to improve delivery system and plug leakages, study suggest that full quota of foodgrain for distribution must reach retail outlets within first seven days of months for which doorstep delivery of grains by Government agencies is required; and

(c) if so, to what extent Government have agreed to change method of identifying poor to plug leakages in TPDS?

Funds for Tamil Nadu for Tenth Five Year Plan

2519. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA
NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned/ allocated/released for Tamil Nadu during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount spent/utilized during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) the amount sanctioned/allocated during the Tenth Five Year Plan till date to Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the projects on which this amount has been utilized till date?

Per capita income of Punjab

2520. SHRI VARINDER SINGH
BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income in Punjab during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the per capita income has fallen during the period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Reconstruction work in Andhra Pradesh

2521. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA
SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had set up any core groups to assist the States especially Andhra Pradesh with regard to reconstruction work after the floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the share of Centre and State for each project allocated; and

(d) the amount utilized for each project so far?

Sectoral public investment

2522. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has scaled down sectoral public investment in the Tenth Five Year Plan by 19 per cent due to Government inability to raise sufficient resources and low internal and extra budgetary resources that are generated by PSUs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that consequently the total investment requirements has also been revised below 12.5 per cent of the original target; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Assessment of poverty line

†2523. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for assessing a person or a family in the country living Below Poverty Line;

(b) whether this assessment is done every year and in what way common people are informed about it;

(c) whether any increase or decrease has been taking place every year in terms of the number of people living Below Poverty Line in the State of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

Project proposals of Maharashtra

2524. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several projects proposed by the State Government of Maharashtra are pending for approval of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for such delay;

(c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for such approvals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when these projects are likely to be approved?

Launching of Bharat Nirman Yojana

†2525. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the prime reason for the entire Bharat Nirman Yojana being launched by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs. one lakh seventy five thousand crores has been earmarked for this scheme;

(c) whether an outline for this scheme has been drawn-up by Government; and

(d) if so, by when this scheme is likely to be implemented?

Road projects in Rajasthan

2526. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects being handled, presently, by the National Highways Authority of India, in Rajasthan;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether any targets were fixed for completion of those projects;

(c) if so, whether they have been achieved;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any new projects are in pipeline, for the State of Rajasthan?

Outsourcing opportunities for scientists

2527. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of scientists working with the Ministries is falling due to craze for outsourcing opportunities amongst the science community;

(b) if so, whether Government work is adversely affected by this migration of scientists; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that scientists are being deployed on administrative work rather than utilizing their scientific skills?

International Union of Radio Science

2528. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a convention of the 'International Union of Radio Science' was recently held at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the deliberations at the convention has opened the scope for predicting earthquake more accurately and sufficiently in advance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, what measures are contemplated to put in

place a mechanism for early and accurate detection of earthquake in the country?

Setting up of ISR in Gujarat

2529. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had proposed to set up an Institute of Seismology Research (ISR) in Gujarat utilizing a World Bank Loan of Rs. 30 crores;

(b) whether no further initiatives were taken either by the Central Government or the State Government resulting in the lapse of the time-bound World Bank loan;

(c) whether the Institute acquired digital seismographs from funds put in by the State Government to create a State-wise network; and

(d) the reasons for the delay in Central fund allotments for over two years now?

Announcement of research findings

2530. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research outputs/ findings are made known to the public regularly;

(b) if so, the mechanism and periodicity of such publications/announcements; and

(c) the details of such research outputs so made known during the last three years?

Research on nanotechnology

2531. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

have recently signed an agreement with Canada with a special emphasis on research on nanotechnology;

(b) if so, the details and the scope of the agreement;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have announced launch of a national nanotechnology centre;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of any other initiatives taken by Government to promote nanotechnology research in India?

Connecting naxal affected States

2532. DR, M.A.M. RAMASWAMY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plan to connect the Naxal affected States is on foot;

(b) if so, the details of the Naxal affected States to be connected by roads.

(c) the total estimated cost of this project; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to connect all the Naxal affected States?

Mega Project for National Sea Route

2533. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for taking up of a mega project for the establishment of a National Sea Route and Associated Maritime

Infrastructure Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to appoint a Joint Coordination Committee for implementation of the project?

Pace of road construction

†2534. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decline in the pace of work of construction and extension of inter-State roads and highways has been registered in last few years;

(b) the length of inter-States roads and highways in kilometers, State-wise and year-wise constructed and extended, during last three years; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to expedite this work?

Six-laning of Highways

2535. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have okeyed Rs. 22,750 crores package for developing four-lane Highways into six-lane in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of highways that would be converted into six lane in the Orissa State?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Road development in Bangalore

2536. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI K. B. KRISHNA
MURTHY:

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

(a) whether the Central Government are examining the proposal submitted by the State for undertaking road development works in Bangalore city;

(b) whether there is any proposal of building a four-lane Highway between Bijapur and Hospet; and

(c) what is the status of the proposal for constructing by-passes for Hubli, Kankapura, Hospet, and other major cities in Karnataka?

Detention of Indian ships

2537. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 11 Indian ships were detained abroad in the first eight months of calendar year 2005;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to this, an increasing number of Indian ships is coming under the scanner of the International Port of State Control (PSC) agencies; and

(c) if so, whether Government have made any investigations regarding the detention of ships?

Funds for Golden Quadrilateral

†2538. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Golden Quadrilateral;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for completion of this scheme;

(c) whether there has been any decline in the allocation of funds for these corridors; and

(d) if so, whether this project would be completed on schedule, the details thereof?

Eastern peripheral expressway

2539. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:

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

(a) whether Chairman of National Highways Authority of India has decided to kick off the work of identifying stretches for construction of Eastern peripheral expressway connecting Faridabad, Noida and Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, whether work identifying stretch would be over in four month;

(c) whether the work of acquisition of land in towns falling in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh would start after this;

(d) what are the other stretches in that phase which have come to the knowledge for entering progress of implementation of highways;

(e) the cause of delay in implementing these projects; and

(f) whether Government are confident in completing these projects within time schedule?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

NMDP in Orissa

2540. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to launch National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) on the lines of Golden Quadrilateral to develop infrastructure at major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the major ports have been asked to identify projects that would meet the demands of a growing international traffic; and

(d) if so, the details of the ports falling in Orissa coast that are proposed to be developed under the above project?

Work on North-South and East-West Corridor

2541. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that work on the North-South and East-West Corridor is behind schedule;

(b) what is the revised date for conclusion of the project;

(c) whether Government have given an estimate of the percentage of the work completed and the number of contracts allotted; and

(d) what is the revised estimate of the total cost of this project?

Accidents involving Indian seamen

2542. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of spate of disappearances and fatal accidents involving Indian Seamen aboard foreign ships;

(b) whether there are more than 60,000 Indians working aboard foreign flag vessels who are being exploited by fly-by-night shiplines;

(c) whether there is any Maritime guideline in force for the safety and welfare of Indian seamen; and

(d) if not, within what time Government are likely to frame one?

Capacity of major ports

2543. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major ports in India with their rated capacity and their utilized capacity for the last three years indicating the reasons for the ports concerned running below the rated capacity and the measures taken to run it to its optimal capacity;

(b) whether there has been a survey and study relating to the existing potentiality and future potentiality of port services needed; and

(c) what could be market intervention to avail such potentiality by the concerned ports?

Potential of inland water transport

2544. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major ports in India having immense potential of inland water transport in the form of riverine port having natural advantage in inland water transport and what is the quantum of it;

(b) whether there is a huge traffic congestion in the city adjoining the river due to inland water transport; and

(c) what are the measures conceived to avert the traffic congestion?

Declaration of National Highways in Punjab

2545. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of highways in Punjab which have been declared as National Highways under the Ninth & Tenth Five Year Plans and total length of National Highways till date; and

(b) the funds allocated for the upgradation and maintenance of the highways of Punjab under the Ninth & Tenth Five Years Plans?

Golden Quadrilateral Project

2546. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Golden Quadrilateral projecting for mega cities Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata has

been held up;

(b) if so, the matter of under construction stretches are behind schedule, State-wise location thereof;

(c) the estimated wastage of the funds and who are responsible for such delay; and

(d) by when the work is expected to be completed?

Length of NH-47

2547. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of NH-47 in Kerala;

(b) what extent of it has been converted into four lane road;

(c) whether there is any proposal to convert the entire NH-47 into four lane road; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Implementation of NHDP-III

2548. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways Development Project phase-III is being implemented;

(b) if so, the total outlay of the project;

(c) the details of the projects awarded so far, the modalities involved therein and the expenditure to be incurred thereon;

(d) the details of the projects to be awarded, State-wise;

(e) the time frame fixed for the

completion of the projects awarded/to be awarded in the near future;

(f) whether the NHDP projects of Phase-I and II have been completed;

(g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor including cost escalation involved therein?

Modernisation of Mercantile Marine Department

2549. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been demands that the Mercantile Marine Department wing of the Directorate-General of Shipping be modernised and changes brought about in the way technical opinions and orders are given;

(b) whether it is a fact that in various matters, MMD officers indulge in delays and give decisions which harm small stakeholders;

(c) what steps Government would take to empower the Administrators to avail of outside opinion to over-rule impeding orders and delayed decision by entrenched MMD structure;

(d) the immediate steps which would be taken by Government to compulsory withdraw the services of such people who are harming interests of small companies; and

(e) the reasons for not taking action so far?

Construction of flyover

2550. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of

SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the construction of fly-over to connect Devanahalli proposed International Airport with Bangalore-Hyderabad National Highway by the National Highways Authority of India;

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

(c) whether Karnataka Government has requested the Central Government to take up the above work by the National Highways Authority of India; and

(d) what is the present status of the above project?

Development of roads near Bangalore

2551. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways Authority of India is examining proposals to take up development of roads near Bangalore City to ease traffic congestion;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been done in this regard;

(c) the estimated cost of the proposed project; and

(d) what is the present status of the above proposals?

Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Pariyojana

2552. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a

scheme known as Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Pariyojana (PMBJP);

(b) whether this project is currently in progress;

(c) if so, how many State capitals are proposed to be linked by four-lane highways under this scheme;

(d) whether the work of the four-laning of the Delhi-Dehradun highway has been taken up under this scheme; and

(e) if not, whether any other plan under which the Delhi-Dehradun four-lane highway is to be constructed?

CRF funded projects in Uttaranchal

2553. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing projects funded by Central Road Fund in the State of Uttaranchal as on 31st October, 2005;

(b) the details of estimated costs, fund released and utilized during the last three years, project-wise; and

(c) the details of the target dates fixed for completion of each project?

National highways leading to Mundra Port

2554. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to four lane the national highway leading to Mundra Port; and

(b) what is the time-frame for the completion of the project?

NH-8 between Vadodara and Surat

2555. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tenders for widening the National Highway between Vadodara and Surat on NH-8 are received;

(b) if so, by when the work would be awarded; and

(c) what is the time-frame for the completion of the project?

Study of road safety matters

2556. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently formed a sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary to study road safety matters in Europe, etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that only non-experts have been nominated to this Committee;

(d) the reasons for excluding pioneers in road safety matters in the country in this body; and

(e) the steps proposed to include a representative of the road safety forum in this study group?

Deploying of ambulances by NHAI

2557. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ambulances presently deployed by NHAI all over the country;

(b) the role of these ambulances;

(c) whether it is a fact that project Directors at various places do not show interest in road safety and management of accidents;

(d) what steps would be proposed to conduct some pilot studies on NH-5 to determine how to reduce road-accidents; and

(e) the steps proposed to make the NH-5 an accident free highway in Andhra Pradesh?

Port terminal development operation

2558. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to involve global players in the country's port-terminal development operations;

(b) if so, the details of the comprehensive maritime development policy of Government;

(c) whether Government have identified the schemes/projects in major ports proposed to be taken up for development; and

(d) if so, the details of those projects falling in the State of Orissa?

Improvement of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

2559. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects seeking financial assistance to improve the National

Highways in Andhra Pradesh pending with Government for sanction;

(b) the funds allotted to Andhra Pradesh for the improvement of National Highways during the current year and the details of the projects; and

(c) the present stage of projects and the proposed plan for the implementation of subsequent phases?

Work on Golden Quadrilateral

2560. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 92 per cent of the work on the Golden Quadrilateral would be completed by December, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 96 per cent of the work would be completed by June, 2006; and

(d) whether 6.05 km. of Golden Quadrilateral roads are being laid every day?

Promotion of SSIs in Assam

2561. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing any scheme in the State of Assam for development and expansion and promotion of Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the above schemes?

Withdrawal of indirect tax exemptions

2562. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering withdrawal of indirect tax exemptions including incentives for Small Scale Industries and those for locating industries in backward areas;

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

(c) in what manner Government propose to offset the adverse effect of such a decision on SSIs and employees engaged therein?

Credit delivery to SSI

2563. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

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

(a) whether better credit delivery to Small Scale Industry sector by RBI, State Financing Corporations and SIDBI are necessary for further enhancing role of small and medium enterprises;

(b) whether in its report on national strategy for manufacturing National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) has recommended that a separate law for small enterprises including chapter on provisions of credit to SSIs be framed as prevalent in other countries;

(c) whether some problems are being faced in accessing credit; and

(d) if so, what steps considered by Government to remove such hurdles that are being faced by SSI units?

SSI units in North-Eastern Region

2564. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Small Scale Industries that have been set up in the country particularly in the North-Eastern Region during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of Small Scale Industries proposed to be set up in the country during the year 2005-06, State-wise?

Closure of SSI units

2565. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the major factors responsible for closure of small scale industrial units in different parts of the country;

(b) the number of labourers rendered jobless due to its closure, category-wise along with steps taken to provide employment to these workers and technicians;

(c) whether Government are aware that small scale Industrialists are facing infrastructural/technical problems like Sales Tax, Income Tax, Electricity Boards, and State financial institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by Government in this regard for smooth functioning of these units?

Disaster management support system

2566. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Space has evolved a space

based disaster management support system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this system had been put to use during the recent natural disasters in the country; and

(d) if so, the extent of success achieved as a result of it?

Time overrun of projects

†2567. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 645 projects under public sector are still under construction;

(b) if not, the number of such projects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that construction work of 258 projects out of the said projects is facing time overrun of period from one month to 21 years;

(d) if not, minimum and maximum period of time overrun of the said projects; and

(e) the cost escalation of the said projects due to such delay?

Division of unused MPLADS fund

†2568. SHRI JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision in the paragraph 3:10 in the guidelines of MPLAD that the unused amount out of the amount allocated to former M.P. (Rajya Sabha) may

be equally divided among sitting M.Ps, whether this provision is being violated;

(b) the unused amount out of the amount allocated to former M.Ps (Rajya Sabha) from Bihar alongwith the names of nodal agencies and the Central Government with which the same is pending;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to equally divide the amount left unused by former M.Ps. from Bihar among sitting M.Ps; if so, by when?

Disaster warning set up in States

2569. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the disaster warning set up in each State, so far;

(b) the amount spent for the purpose especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Government had taken the assistance of foreign firms with regard to the latest system in the process;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Hiring of talented scouts

2570. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have hired talented scouts to visit tribal areas to find the best potential coaches in the country;

(b) the details of this talent scouting activity of the Sports Authority of India;

(c) what other steps Government propose to take to inspire the youth to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

train them properly for sports and athletics; and

(d) the details of short-comings that have been addressed in sports management and Olympic preparations in the last two years?

Sports facilities in Uttar Pradesh

2571. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals regarding sports facilities received from the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number out of them lying pending; and

(c) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared?

Transfer of coaches

2572. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mass-scale transfers of coaches of Sports Authority of India has resulted in wide spread resentment amongst them, if so, whether this state of affairs will not adversely affect country's prospects in the coming Commonwealth Games of 2010;

(b) what steps have been taken to identify, nurture and suitably train young talented potential medal winners; and

(c) by when the Sports Authority of India would settle its "in-house" problems and fully gear itself for meeting the challenges ahead?

Facilities for Commonwealth Games

2573. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to accommodate a large number of visitors during the Commonwealth Games in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the stadium for various events are located in congested areas;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to have an effective traffic plan during the Games;

(d) whether the hotel accommodations in the capital is sufficient to meet the requirement of players and management coming to participate;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

Construction of sport complex in Uttaranchal

2574. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of sports complex in Uttaranchal during the current and next years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Corruption in Nehru Yuvak Kendra in Bulandshahar, U.P.

†2575. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the fact that in the name of releasing second instalment of grant to voluntary organizations by his Ministry, the officers of Nehru Yuvak Kendras are involved in corruption for giving enquiry reports and the voluntary organizations are also involved in corruption;

(b) the action being taken by Government in the matter particularly against the voluntary organizations and the officers of Nehru Yuvak Kendra of district Bulandshahar, U.P.; and

(c) the beneficiaries during the last five years of grants received from the Ministry in district Bulandshahar, U.P.?

Delay in Recruitment of coaches in SAI Centres

2576. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the six centres opened by Sports Association of India over the recent few months, the recruitment of coaches and administrators has not taken place;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to this delay in appointment, facilities for new sports like Wushu and Sepak-Takraw are not being utilized at all; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to fill the vacancies of coaches and administrators at all SAI centres?

NEW DELHI;
The 9th December, 2005
Agrahayana 18, 1927 (*Saka*)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

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