

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Wednesday, the March 16, 2005/Phalguna 25, 1926 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions — 155

Demand and production of coffee

1541. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of each
variety of coffee produced in the country
during the last three financial years;

(b) whether the production is able to
meet the local demand of the country for
coffee;

(c) which State consumes more coffee
in the country and the quantity consumed;

(d) whether the coffee seeds are
exported from the country and if so the
total quantity of such exports and the
foreign exchange earned out of these exports
during the last three financial years; and

(e) what steps are being taken to
maintain the price at reasonable and
affordable levels in the country?

India as a global trade hub

1542. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the Ministry
has constituted a 12-member Inter-
Ministerial Panel, headed by Commerce
Secretary, to look into various aspects as
to how to make India a global trade hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the proposed global trade
hub would be at par with the hubs in UK,
Switzerland, Dubai and Hong Kong?

Trade between India and Pakistan

1543. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will
the Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of formal and informal
trade between India and Pakistan during
the last three years as per the information
available with the Union Government;

(b) whether the volume of informal trade
is larger than the formal trade; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government
to bring the items which are at present
traded unofficially into the official tradable
list?

Trade deficit

1544. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trade deficit increased during April-December in 2004-05 as imports rose by 335 per cent during the period;

(b) if so, the nature and details of the items of imports and the increase in imports thereof, item-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to keep the deficit in check?

Production and exports of tea

1545. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of each variety of tea produced in the country during the last three financial years along with its value;

(b) which State produces the maximum quantity of tea in the country;

(c) what is the total consumption of tea in the country during the last three years; and

(d) what is the total value of exports both in quantity and value during the last three financial years?

Economic cooperation with Russia

1546. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that India-Russia trade stands at a low of \$ 3.3 billion, of which Russia's imports from India are only \$ 0.6 billion; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this anomaly and what steps Government is thinking to initiate to boost economic cooperation with Russia?

Concessional loans to small-scale industries

†1547. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to provide concessional loans on the lines of agriculture to those small-scale industries which are distressed due to expensive loans and negligence of the banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, the final decision is likely to be taken?

Production of cardamom

1548. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the area of cultivation and quantum of production of cardamom in the country;

(b) the year-wise production of cardamom and its value during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the exports and imports of cardamom during the last three years?

Role of SEB in Kerala's industrial progress

1549. SHRIN.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

conducted by Government regarding role of State Electricity Board in Kerala's industrial progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to implement any packages for the development of traditional industries such as coir, cashew, handloom, khadi etc., in Kerala?

Revival of closed industries in Tamil Nadu

1550. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to identify the number of closed small, medium, large industries in Tamil Nadu during the last two years; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to revive such industries within the time-frame?

Differences with regard to amendment in Patent Act

1551. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any differences are brewing up in the Government on the issue of amendment in the Patent Act; and

(b) how the Government proposes to overcome the differences in order to meet the deal-line of January, 1, 2005 under international obligation?

Import of horticulture planting material

1552. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to import genuine horticulture planting material of favourable genotype from other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Provisions of compensation for multiple duties and taxes on exports

1553. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ministry is working on any scheme of providing full compensation for the incidence of multiple duties and taxes on exports;

(b) whether any consultations have been held in this regard with the exporters; and

(c) whether the proposed scheme is thought about by the ministry in view of the proposed withdrawal of Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme?

Marketing rights to NOVARTIS

1554. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether exclusive marketing rights has been granted by the Government to NOVARTIS for Glevac, an anti-cancer medicine;

(b) if so, what is the present price of Glevac by Novartis (per ampule); and

(c) what was the price per ampule on Glevac which was earlier produced by six Indian Companies?

**Pact with South East Asian nations
for duty free import of pepper**

1555. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arrived at trade pact with any South East Asian Nation other than Sri Lanka to allow duty free import of pepper;

(b) whether Government are aware that pepper from various South East Asian nations are dumped in Kerala under the cover of the Indo-Sri Lanka trade accord; if so, whether Government propose to initiate any remedial measures therefor;

(c) whether Government of Kerala sought the intervention of the Government for the import of pepper through a specified port; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon and whether Government propose to restrict the dumping from the South East Asian Nations if any?

**Setting up industries in backward
areas**

1556. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial growth has taken place mostly around cities during the post liberalisation era;

(b) whether it is entirely left to the MNCs to choose the location of industry; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to set up/enable setting up of industries in the rural areas particularly backward regions?

Effect of Tsunami on seafood exports

1557. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recent Tsunami has affected our sea food exports to other countries;

(b) whether any assessment of the extent of damage caused by Tsunami to our seafood has been made;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the prices of shrimps, squids, crabsticks, Surimi, etc; have gone up by 40 per cent and thereby directly affected our sea food exports; and

(e) what steps the ministry is taking to maintain the prices of sea food in the country?

**Industrial incentive package for
Punjab**

1558. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering to provide industrial incentive package for Punjab State;

(b) whether any specific proposals have been received from the Punjab State Government in this regard; and

(c) what are the relevant details in this regard?

**Finding new areas and strains for
coffee cultivation**

1559. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coffee Board has not been able to expand coffee growing areas in the country;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the Coffee Board being unable to identify new areas and new strains of coffee suitable for Indian soils and climate;

(c) whether Government would identify new areas for coffee growing in the country;

(d) whether it is a fact that traditional coffee growers do not want new growers to come into the field; and

(e) the steps proposed to find new areas and new strains for coffee cultivation in the country?

Import of edible oil

† 1560. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of import of edible oil, especially palm oil from abroad during the last five years;

(b) whether any concession has been granted in customs duty for the import of the said edible oil;

(c) if so, the logic of granting the said special concession;

(d) whether it is a fact that the imported palm oil has destroyed the indigenous edible oil industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

FDI in construction sector

1561. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government is examining question of permitting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in construction sector

and is holding wide-range consultations with various stakeholders;

(b) if so, whether Government is reconsidering as to what is best for FDI in construction sector;

(c) whether presently 100 per cent FDI is permitted in integrated townships, although real estate industry has long been demanding foreign investment in all types of reality projects;

(d) whether industry is also seeking relaxation of 100 acre norm for integrated township; and

(e) by what time final decision for permitting Foreign Direct Investment in construction sector is likely to be taken?

Changes in the Patent law

1562. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has brought out certain changes in the Patent law;

(b) if so, the reaction of the traders; and

(c) the benefits the general public will get out of it?

Establishment of heavy industries in J & K

1563 SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that J & K is one of the States where there is no significant presence of heavy industries even after decades of independence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have carried out any study to ascertain the suitability of climatic conditions and availability of natural raw material for heavy industries such as wrist watches in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to establish heavy industries in the State of J & K?

**Implementation of IT-based
Information Dissemination Plan in
tea industry**

1564. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented IT-based Information Dissemination Plan for the tea industry, including conversion of manual auction into electronic auction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Effect of climate on production of tea,
coffee and cotton**

1565. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR:
SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of tea, coffee and cotton has been affected by climatic reasons in different parts of the country;

(b) the quantity of tea, coffee and cotton grown during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(c) the number of gardens and factories connected with these commodities that have closed down during the last three years; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to boost up the growers, workers and the system of marketing of these commodities?

Export target for 2004-05

1566. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated export target for the year 2004-05, how much export earnings have accrued in the last three quarters of this financial year;

(b) whether the commodity-wise/ service-wise earning are according to the targets fixed or there are areas which are lagging behind; and

(c) whether export projection councils have suggested any new strategies to be followed in the year 2005-06?

**FDI in branded and dedicated retail
sector**

1567. DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI
BARUPAL:

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

(a) whether Government is planning to allow Foreign Direct Investment in branded and dedicated retail segments to boost investment in employment generating sectors;

(b) if so, whether FDI in the sectors, in which existing employment scenario will get distressed, is not likely to be considered;

(c) if so, what are areas where the Government has agreed to increase FDI; and

(d) to what extent Government has been able to get FDI improved in those projects?

Enactment of SEZ Legislation/Bill

1568. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

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

(a) how many Special Economic Zone (SEZ) projects were approved so far by the Government;

(b) when would the Legislation/Bill be enacted for SEZ;

(c) how many SEZ were converted from Export Processing Zones (EPZs); and

(d) how many SEZ were sanctioned in Karnataka and what is the status of those projects; is there a proposal to establish a SEZ at Hubli-Dharwad?

Sea food industry

1569. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sea food industries in the country are facing set back due to lack of infrastructure and foreign competition which forced the employees to find job elsewhere for their livelihood;

(b) if so, the reasons for collapse of the industry; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide alternate jobs to the workers who lost their jobs?

Revised Trade Policy

1570. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to introduce a new or revised Trade Policy for the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of this revised Trade Policy; and

(c) the benefits of this revised Trade Policy?

Trade pacts

1571. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have signed any trade pacts with any country;

(b) if so, the details of these pacts with different countries signed recently; and

(c) the benefits of such pacts which will accrue to the country?

Benefits of India's economic diplomacy

1572. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

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

(a) whether India's economic diplomacy has started yielding results as a significant expansion in trade with its neighbours is paving way for closer relations with these countries;

(b) whether China is all set to become the country's largest trading partner;

(c) whether contours of powerful Pan Asian economic grouping JACIK (Japan ASEAN China India and Korea) are fast emerging;

(d) whether Indo-Sino trade has recorded 100% growth from \$ 7.6 billion to over \$ 13 billion;

(e) if so, whether India and China carried out first ever strategic dialogue in New Delhi in January, 2005; and

(f) whether it has been agreed to improve trade between JACIK?

Misusing of provisions of iron ore export

1573. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that certain unscrupulous exporters have been found misusing the policy provisions of export of iron ore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether to control the magnitude of misuse, Government propose to impose restrictions on exports of this ore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Steps to boost foundry industry

1574. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's foundry is on the upbeat both in the domestic and export sectors;

(b) whether Government propose to help this sector in infrastructure development to bring this out of the recession; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Export of pulses

†1575. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that export of pulses is increasing continuously in the past few years in the country inspite of the fact that their availability is lesser than the requirement;

(b) if so, the quantity and the value of the pulses which were exported out of the country during the years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and till the month of December, 2004-05; and

(c) the amount given to the Government in the form of taxes in each of the aforesaid period as a result of this export?

Widening gap between import and export value

†1576. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the difference between import value and export value of import-export trade of the country has been widening during the past years;

(b) if so, the amount of said difference in 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and in first 9 months of 2004-2005 separately; and

(c) the annual increase rate in the import and export in above periods separately?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Allowing Commonwealth countries
for FDI**

1577. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed five Commonwealth countries for FDI; and

(b) if so, the details about the countries and the sectors in which the investment is made?

**Time for setting up of industries in
India**

†1578. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER
SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the time taken in completing official process to set up an Industry or a commercial unit in India is longer when compared to many other countries of world;

(b) if so, the assessment of the Government in this regard;

(c) what is the average time taken in India; and

(d) the average time taken in U.S.A., China, Japan, Sri Lanka, France, England and European countries?

**Replacement of popular Duty
Entitlement Passbook Scheme**

1579. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to replace the popular Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPS);

(b) whether Government has appointed National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and Economic Law Forum to design a new export incentive scheme to replace DEPB; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Sainik Welfare Boards in Madhya
Pradesh and Chhattisgarh**

†1580. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in which Sainik Welfare Boards are in existence as on 31st March, 2002;

(b) the districts among them where number of ex-servicemen living there is less than and more than 7500;

(c) whether any approval has been taken from Ministry of Defence to establish Sainik Welfare Boards in districts having less than seven thousand and five hundred Ex-Servicemen; and

(d) the details of districts having less than 7500 Ex-Servicemen alongwith the Ex-Servicemen Boards among these districts?

Violation of LoC ceasefire

1581. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI LALIT SURI:
SHRI PRAMOD
MAHAJAN:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last few months there have been cases of violation of ceasefire from across the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of cases of violation, the number of casualties and other losses suffered by the civilian population and the armed forces including the para-military forces;

(c) whether protest in this regard has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan; and

(d) if so, their reaction thereto?

Steps taken to check LoC ceasefire agreement

†1582. SHRI DHARAM PAL
SABHARWAL:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cease-fire agreement has been contravened by the recent firings made by the Pakistani army along the Jammu and Kashmir area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the army General has talked to the Pakistani army officers;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to check the contravention of cease-fire agreement in future?

Transfer of maintenance responsibility of commercial complexes

1583. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has decided to transfer the responsibility of maintenance of the commercial complexes from Defence Estates to service Head quarters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has received any request from the tourism Ministry for shifting of its shopping complexes for tourism promotions; and

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

Purchase of Lakshya by Israel

1584. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel had agreed to buy Pilotless Target Aircraft Lakshya from India under reciprocal procurement of defence related items over a year ago;

(b) whether Israel had also paid for conducting trials of Lakshya PTA but has since reneged on its commitment opting for US made UAV; and

(c) whether Israel is still keeping its interest alive to buy advanced light helicopter Dhruv made by India with Israeli collaboration?

Re-employment of retired jawans

†1585. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of soldiers retired from the various wings of Indian Army in last three years and total number of soldiers among them who have got re-appointment in various departments and public sector undertakings of Central Government and State Governments;

(b) the number of ex-servicemen registered for re-employment with the Directorate General of ex-servicemen rehabilitation;

(c) whether Government after the review of policies and orders in this regard is going to make them more effective; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Life and property lost in MIG-21 aircraft crash near Bikaner

1586. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question no. 201 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd March, 2005 and state the extent of loss to life and property caused due to the mishap?

Re-employment benefits to Ex-PBOR

1587. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ex-Personnel Below Officer Rank (Ex-PBOR) re-employed after registering their names with Director General of Resettlement (DGR) and called for interview and appointed in autonomous bodies based on the above registration in DGR are eligible for all the benefits as that of the Ex-PBOR re-employed in autonomous bodies through securities agencies sponsored through DGR; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Guidelines on Defence purchases

1588. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has laid down strict guidelines on evolving a time-bound system for scrutiny of Defence purchases;

(b) whether it is a fact that Defence purchases are delayed over the years in normal course;

(c) in what way, would Government ensure that Defence purchases are made on a strict time-bound system;

(d) whether it is also a fact that some

Defence suppliers deliberately ensure that delays occur in such matters; and

(e) the steps proposed to adhere to the new rules of time-bound purchases?

Steps to secure release of missing soldiers of 1965 and 1971 wars

1589. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that War Widows Association, through a demonstration, drew the attention of the Government to the missing soldiers of 1965 and 1971 wars;

(b) what is the number of soldiers reported missing for each of the two wars; and

(c) whether Government has renewed its efforts to secure release of these soldiers from Pakistan and/or trace them if they are not in the custody of Pakistan Government, if so, with what results?

Formation of Aerospace Commission

1590. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI S.M. LALJAN
BASHA:
SHRI C. RAMA-
CHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air Force has sought the formation of an Aerospace Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what will be the purpose of this new Aerospace Commission; and

(d) in what manner such a Commission would help in indigenisation of our Air Force requirements;

(e) full details thereof?

Compensation to farmers for laying of mines in their lands

1591. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of farmers were uprooted as their lands were taken over by army for laying of mines or other operation purposes on the Indo-Pak border in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details of compensation paid to the affected farmers; and

(c) the lands since returned to the farmers after de-mining and the lands still under army occupation?

Firing on LoC after cease-fire declaration

1592. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of firing incidents which took place on the LoC since the cease-fire declared in November, 2003;

(b) which are the places where the firing took place; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Government thereon?

Sanctioning of Defence land for Metro Rail Project in Bangalore

1593. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand from the Government of Karnataka for sanctioning 102 acres of Defence land in Bangalore for the Metro Rail Project;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government;

(c) when are the final orders expected to be issued to hand over the land;

(d) whether there are any formalities to be observed by the State Government; and

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure that there is no misutilisation of Defence land for commercial purposes?

Losses to Air Force due to Tsunami

1594. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent Tsunami waves have damaged and caused losses to the Air Force;

(b) if so, what was the total damage caused to Air Force base and total losses suffered by Air Force men;

(c) what steps are being considered to repair these damages; and

(d) what was the compensation paid to those Air Force men who lost their lives?

Encroachment of Defence land

†1595. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private parties and companies have occupied Defence land in Mumbai, Sikandarabad, Barielly and Amritsar;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to take this land back in its possession; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Pensionary benefits to ex-servicemen

1596. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total service eligible for ex-servicemen to get the benefit of minimum pension;

(b) whether Government allow any minimum *ex-gratia* who are discharged before attaining 15 years on genuine grounds;

(c) whether Government propose to initiate any change in the pension rules for accommodating below 15 years category for minimum pension and other pensionary benefits enjoyed by others at present;

(d) whether Government have any proposal of granting *ex-gratia* pension to those ex-servicemen who put less than 10 years service; and

(e) whether Government propose to extend any resettlement facilities to those peoples?

Winding up of Mukherjee Commission

1597. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to wind up M.K. Mukherjee Commission investigating the mystery behind the Netaji Subhash Chander Bose's disappearance despite the fact that work of the Commission is yet to be completed;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Commission was not allowed to go to Russia to study the KGB records which could confirm the fact that Netaji had been alive after 1945; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Special package to States for bringing militant outfits in main stream

1598. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether economic packages have been granted to different States for ensuring that militant outfits operating therein laydown arms and return to the national main stream;

(b) if so, the details of such packages given to different States; and

(c) what corresponding steps have been taken or economic package offered to other States to ensure harmonious development of the country and giving a legitimate share of employment to the youth of such States?

Spurt in Left wing activities

1599. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per recent press reports the Director General, CRPF has expressed his apprehensions regarding the spurt in activities of Left wing extremism/Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar and other affected States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto and the preventive measures it propose to take to cope with the situation?

Agreement with Myanmar for combating terrorism

1600. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any

agreement with Myanmar for combating terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the efforts being made by Government to fight terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking at Myanmar border?

Handling of crimes against foreign nationals

1601. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI's Interpol Division has been designated as the nodal agency to handle crimes against foreign nationals in India; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the factors that influenced such a decision?

Domestic violence against women

†1602. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of exploitation of women, harassment of women, domestic violence, deaths of women due to dowry etc., during the last three years;

(b) whether Government propose to make more stringent laws to save the women from domestic violence and harassment; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward any Bill on this subject?

Private security agencies

1603. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private security agencies in the country are mushrooming like anything;

(b) if so, whether Government have any details as to how many private agencies are working in the country;

(c) whether Government have any regulatory or legal framework to look into the various aspects of private security agencies in the country; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to enact a legislation to oversee the functioning of the private agencies in the country?

Terrorist organization from Nepal operating in bordering areas

†1604. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the increasing activities of terrorist organizations of neighbouring country Nepal in the bordering areas of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, what concrete measures have been taken to stop migration of these terrorist organizations; and

(c) the number of terrorists who have been arrested so far?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Arrest of Delhi Police Personnel

1605. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of Delhi Police Personnel arrested during the last three years, till date, each year on charges of corruption, rape, cheating, theft, murder and attempt to murder;

(b) the particulars of Delhi traffic police personnel caught taking bribes by the vigilance branch during the same period;

(c) the particulars of Delhi Police Officers implicated in bribery and other cases during the same period; and

(d) the Departmental action so far taken against them?

Cases registered by NHRC

1606. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many complaints were received by the National Human Rights Commission during last 3 years;

(b) out of the above, how many cases were enquired; and

(c) how many cases have been registered?

Incidents of terrorist/naxal activities

1607. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the incidents involving terrorist activities, Naxalite and extremist activities in the country since May, 2004;

(b) the number of civilians, para-military personnel, terrorists and extremists killed in such activities; and

(c) the steps taken to control such incidents?

Rehabilitation of Tsunami Survivors

†1608. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of loss suffered due to devastating Tsunami quake that hit Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh in the country;

(b) the details about the economic or any other type of assistance provided for relief and rehabilitation measures in those State by Central Government, national and international organizations; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to rehabilitate persons/ children who survived Tsunami?

Eviction of Bangladeshi infiltrators

1609. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government has served quit India notices on 1500 Bangladeshi infiltrators from the coastal Kendrapara district within 30 days;

(b) whether the infiltrators have written to UN Secretary General while simultaneously moving the Orissa High Court challenging the State's notice as violative of international refugee and humanitarian character; and

(c) whether there have also been allegations that the identification of infiltrators has not been done properly?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Increasing number of false dowry cases

†1610. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of false dowry cases is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details of dowry cases registered during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that husband and his family get relief only after long periods of harassment;

(d) whether Government propose to bring any provision by making some changes in the said Act for registration of actual cases of dowry harassment;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Clashes between para-military personnel and train passengers

†1611. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the constantly increasing incidents of clashes between personnel of para-military forces and other passengers in trains;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents during the last one year; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to prevent such incidents?

Paucity of storage capacity for relief material

1612. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that organisations,

such as Municipal Corporation of Delhi, collecting relief material like blankets, tents, clothing etc., for Tsunami victims refused to accept the same due to paucity of storage capacity;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider creation of buffer capacity stores in each State/UT where donors could give material from time to time to meet the requirement of any natural disaster/calamity immediately in future; and

(c) how the surplus material now collected is proposed to be utilised?

Sexual exploitation of women in jails

1613. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has called for a factual report from the Uttaranchal Government about the women prisoner being sexually exploited in the Hardwar District jail;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Centre to stop the sexual exploitation of women in jails in future?

Probe of human rights violations in Gujarat by a US Judge

1614. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fact finding delegation from US, headed by a federal district judge from New York, is currently on a visit to Gujarat for probing human rights violations in the recent past;

(b) whether the delegation had a series of meetings with family members of POTA detainees in Gujarat; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the delegation is scheduled to call on the National Human Rights Commission and to submit a copy of its findings on Gujarat?

Setting up of Disaster Management Authority

1615. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the nature and quantum of relief/rehabilitation measures provided by Government to Tsunami victims in the various States/State-wise;

(b) whether any Central monitoring agency has been set up by Government to ensure receipt of relief supplies by the victims;

(c) whether it is a fact that a suggestion has been made by the overseas Indians that their representative should be included in the agency to monitor utilisation of aid received from overseas; and

(d) the details of legislation to set up the Disaster Management Authority?

Inter-State crimes

1616. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dacoity and murder by Inter-State gangs are on the increase in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of the limitations of the State Governments in bringing such culprits to book; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to curb such Inter-State crimes?

Loans for self-employment to Tsunami affected women

1617. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan provided to women affected by Tsunami for setting up of their homes and self-employment work; and

(b) the number of installments, the loanee have to repay the loans?

Financial assistance to Kerala for rehabilitation of Tsunami victims

1618. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government issued any directions to the Tsunami affected State Governments relating to the limit of expenses and nature of house to be constructed for the rehabilitations purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government of Kerala submitted any proposal for the anticipated expenditure of such houses and if so, the estimated expenses of each house; and

(d) whether Government consider to accord permission for the scheme and extend financial assistance for the same?

Proposals from Gujarat regarding protection of its borders

1619. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has suggested any scheme to Union Government for further protection of its border adjacent to Pakistan;

(b) what are the main details of that proposal; and

(c) how many such suggestion of State Government of Gujarat are acceded by Central Government?

Deserting the Indian girls after marriage

1620. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the most of the NRI boys marry Indian girls concealing their first marriage and thus deceiving the Indian girls;

(b) if so, how many such cases have been brought to the notice of Government and how many such cases have been registered;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the culprits are managing to avoid arrests and escape from the country; and

(d) whether Law permits for extradition of such culprits from various countries?

Assistance sought by Tamil Nadu

1621. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA
SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Tamil Nadu has asked for help to erect a wall on the seashore to protect from future Tsunami threats; and

(b) if so, what are the details and response of Government of India?

Persons working in Indian film industry without employment visas

1622. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number

of persons are illegal working in Indian film industry without employment visas;

(b) if so, what are the estimated number of such persons working at present in film industry;

(c) whether Government have recently deported some film artistes to their parent countries and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to take strict action against those involved in commercial ventures but are having visitor's visa and if not, the reasons thereof?

Recruitment in Police/paramilitary forces from disturbed areas

1623. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided that Central Police Organisations (CPOs) like the Border Security Force and the CISF must recruit only from trouble-prone and disturbed areas in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government had ordered that a minimum of 20 per cent of new recruits to CPOs must be from disturbed areas in the country;

(c) what are the objectives of this policy;

(d) whether such a recruitment process is already in place; and

(e) the details of this policy and expected impact of this policy?

Wall along coastline

1624. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to build a wall along the coastline as a measure to control Tsunami and other affect of waves in future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Recovery of gunnybags containing explosives

1625. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two gunnybags containing explosives were recovered from the Kazipeth-Nagpur passenger train at the Nagpur railway station on the 18th February, 2005;

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

(c) whether an inquiry has been ordered in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the inquiry?

Smuggling of arms

†1626. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that arms are being smuggled in large quantity in the country;

(b) the total number of cases which have come to light during last three years and the number of persons arrested so far; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check this smuggling?

Cases taken up by NHRC *suo motu*

1627. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases have been taken up by NHRC *suo motu* during the last three years;

(b) how many cases were registered against the above *suo motu* taken up cases; and

(c) how many offenders were punished?

Visa violation

1628. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules and regulations concerning visiting, tourist and employment visas and the obligations of beneficiaries of such visas;

(b) whether it is a fact that people on visiting visas overstay and engage in commercial activities in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and the number of such cases detected during the last three years and number of people deported back to their country of origin for such visa violations?

Non-availability of equipments to tackle natural calamities

†1629. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that necessary equipments are not available to face a natural calamity in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Visiting abroad without approval of Screening Committee

1630. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Secretaries to Government of India from scientific departments are eligible to visit abroad based on invitation received in personal capacity of the officer;

(b) if so, the details of such visits during the years 2001-2004;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the officers have to take approval of Screening Committee of Secretaries or Prime Minister before accepting invitation and clearance of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act for accepting remuneration/honorarium;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the officers are eligible to visit abroad with above clearance of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act and without approval of Screening Committee of Secretaries or Prime Minister?

Consultation with various groups of J & K

1631. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government initiated process of consultation with various political groups of J&K outside Hurriyat by holding series of meetings in Delhi in February, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of those meetings?

Talks regarding autonomy to J&K

1632. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recently have set up a committee to talk with political parties in Jammu and Kashmir on granting more autonomy to the State; and

(b) if so, the details of the committee and the parameters under which talks would be held?

Multi-purpose National Identity Cards

1633. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the areas in thirteen States/UTs covered under the pilot project on Multipurpose National Identity Cards scheme initiated in April, 2003;

(b) the basis for selecting these places under the pilot project;

(c) the status of the said pilot project as on 31st January, 2005;

(d) the details of States/places contemplated to be covered by the scheme in the subsequent phase and its time-frame;

(e) the area-wise number of citizens provided with MNICs under pilot project;

(f) whether steps have been initiated for detection of illegal migrants consequent to MNICs and their deportation;

(g) if so, details thereof; and

(h) if not, reasons therefor?

Conversion of tribals

1634. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that adivasis (tribals) are being converted into Christianity in various parts of the country by offering monetary and other benefits and facilities; and

(b) if so, what action Government would take to check this anti-national and unwarranted happenings creating social and community-wise imbalances in the country thereby creating social tensions and other problems?

Receiving of hospitality/honorarium from foreign Government/agency

1635. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Secretaries to Government of India from scientific department used to submit request for clearance for receiving hospitality/honorarium from foreign Government/agency during their visit abroad on personal ground;

(b) if so, request submitted and granted for receiving hospitality/honorarium year-wise, and category-wise for the last three years; and

(c) the place of visit, source and amount of honorarium, source of hospitality and amount received as hospitality for which clearance was sought year-wise and category-wise for last three years?

Joint STF for tackling naxal menace

1636. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that left wing rebels give the police a slip by crossing from one State to another after committing a violence act;

(b) if so, whether Union Government propose to set up joint special task forces among States affected by left wing extremism to overcome the problem of State boundaries interfering with anti-naxalite operations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the naxal-affected States have agreed on joint policing to tackle the menace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and under whose command the joint special task force shall operate?

Foreign intruders

†1637. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Bangladeshi intruders, Talibans and other persons of foreign origin are living unchecked in many parts of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that State Governments have totally failed to have stringent monitoring on them;

(c) whether many problems are arising due to such intruders who are affecting internal security together with economy of the country; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Central Government to tackle the said situation?

Buildings without safety equipments in Delhi

1638. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several buildings, schools and hospitals in the capital Delhi have no fire safety equipments as being reported in the media;

(b) if so, the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Eviction of Arunachal people from
Assam border areas**

1639. SHRI NABAMREBIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Assam has failed to maintain *status quo* agreement with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh with regard to boundary disputes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Assam forest and Assam Police have been carrying out unprovoked evictions against Arunachal people in Assam Arunachal boundary areas; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Centre to resolve this vexed boundary disputes between the two States?

**Nexus between film actress and
underworld**

1640. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are investigating the nexus between any film actress and underworld don Dawood Ibrahim's brother Anees Ibrahim;

(b) if so, what is the case and whether the film actress has been interrogated in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Red corner notices against gutkha
manufacturers**

1641. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has used red corner notices against some gutkha barons of India; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Recruitment of women in CPOs

1642. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to expand the recruitment of women in CPOs in the country;

(b) if so, what are the present guidelines with regard to recruitment of women in CPOs;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a need for women in CPOs in many disturbed areas of the country;

(d) the steps proposed to encourage women to seek employment in CPOs in disturbed areas; and

(e) the incentive proposed to be given for such women?

Constitution of voluntary civil force

1643. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to constitute a voluntary civil force to be deployed in times of natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Population of Muslims as per Census
2001**

1644 SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Census 2001 has been completed;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred on the census;

(c) what is the population of Muslims State-wise and district-wise in various States/Union Territories as per this census;

(d) what are the names of first three most density States, according to 2001 Census; and

(e) what are the names of most density States of Muslim populated districts in states according to the census?

Meeting of National Integration Council

1645. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Integration Council has been meeting regularly and if so, work done by the council during the last 10 years; and

(b) if answer to (a) above is in the negative, the steps proposed to be taken to revive the Council for deliberating on sensitive national issues like minority interests, communal amity et al?

Smart card in place of citizenship certificate

†1646. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide smart card in place of citizenship certificate;

(b) if so, the details of reasons for which Government had to think of such alternative; and

(c) to what extent NRIs will be benefited by this measure and the investment likely to be increased as a result thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Consumption of various sources for generating power

1647. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the yearly consumption of coal, oil and natural gas and such other energy sources in the field of generation of power;

(b) the policy of Government to derive alternative energy sources in the face of diminishing trend of the conventional ones;

(c) the status of solar, water and wind energy sources undertaken so far;

(d) the reasons restricting development of these alternative energy sources; and

(e) the details of policy of the Central Government in this respect?

Setting up hydro-electric power plant in Assam

1648. SHRIMATISYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam has the potential of generating 34,000 MW of hydro-electricity, but only 668 MW has been tapped so far;

(b) whether government have any proposal to construct more hydro-electric power plants in Assam; and

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

National Electricity Policy

1649. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised and formulated its National Electricity Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) what role has been assigned to private investors in the field of production and distribution in the policy?

Hike in power tariff

1650. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the adverse effect of the continuous increase in power tariffs on the agriculture, industry and common man;

(b) if so, the power tariff for different sectors viz. agriculture, industry and domestic, in the country, State-wise;

(c) the extent of hike in power tariff by SEBs in the States recorded during the last two years, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the frequent hike in power tariff?

Shortage of power in Karnataka

1651. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Karnataka is facing an unprecedented shortage of Power;

(b) if so, whether Government have received a proposal of power sector reform programmes from Government of Karnataka; and

(c) if so, what are the details of measures

taken to set right the unprecedented shortage of power in Karnataka?

Constitution of State Electricity Regulatory Commission

1652. SHRI R. K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH
BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) which States still do not have Regulatory Commission;

(b) what steps are being taken to ensure that they set up the Regulatory Commission with time-bound programme;

(c) what is the rate of power charged all over the country by SEBs to different consumers during the last three years and which are based on Regulatory Orders;

(d) whether there is no Regulatory Commission who control the electricity rates; and

(e) whether Central Regulatory Authority can bring such States under their control till local authorities are established?

Generation of power in the country

†1653. SHRI RAMADHAR
KASHYAP: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total power generation (in thousand megawatt) in the country annually;

(b) the power being generated by NTPC out of the above;

(c) whether any efforts are being made by NTPC to increase its power generation capacity; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Maintenance and setting up of power plants by NTPC in other countries

1654. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is eyeing for large scale participation in maintenance and setting up of power plants in other countries;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with the details of the projects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that NTPC is exploring the possibility of LNG in off-shore areas in Gulf and African countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Rosa Thermal Power Plant

1655. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of thermal power plants sanctioned by Government during each of the last three years in the country;

(b) the names and details of plants where the work has started;

(c) the present position of Rosa Thermal Power Plant;

(d) whether the Rosa Thermal Power Plant has started working;

(e) if not, the reasons for the same; and

(f) by when it is likely to start?

Demand and supply of power in the country

†1656. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the demand and supply of power in the country;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to meet the increasing demand of power; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to use other energy sources to meet the said demand?

Setting up power projects in U.P.

†1657. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power projects which have been set up and are being implemented in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the amount of money arranged for this purpose during this period and details of targets fixed in this regard; and

(c) to what extent targets fixed have been achieved in this regard?

Declaration of interim dividend by NTPC

1658. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Power Grid had declared interim dividend in the last financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these companies have not yet contributed their share to the Government coffers;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when this amount of interim dividend and the amount of final dividend, if any, is likely to be paid to the Government?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Ramagundam Thermal Power Project

1659. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Phase-II of Ramagundam Thermal Power Project has been commissioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the total installed power capacity and the Plant Load Factor of the Thermal Unit; and

(c) if not, by when the said unit would be commissioned?

Potential of hydro-electricity in Jammu and Kashmir

1660. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is great potential of hydro-electricity in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) what is the present demand and supply of power with details of power generating plants in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) the details of power projects under construction in the State with their capacities and expected date of commissioning; and

(d) the details of power projects where works are likely to commence in the next couple of years?

Setting up of power exchange

1661. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector power companies have proposed to set up a power exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue through such exchange?

Power for Qutub Complex

1662. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 97 KW of power has been granted to illuminate the entire Qutub Complex;

(b) if so, whether the complex is capable of bearing such a massive load and if not, whether there is possibility of huge fire erupting in the complex; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for making Qutub Complex safe from fire and other such incidents in the high voltage zones?

Waste heat from power plants

1663. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a new technology has been developed that can tap waste heat from electrical power plants, which could significantly reduce the cost of desalination;

(b) if so, can this technology or its modified version be adopted in India, in desalination process, as the current desalination plants are not cost-efficient; and

(c) whether Government agree with the globally emerging view that this technology could run off excess heat from the utility plants and produce millions of gallons each day, thus contributing towards reducing water shortage?

Shortage of coal at Talcher Super Thermal Power Plant

1664. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is facing coal crisis and does not have enough

coal for its fifth Power Plant of Talcher Thermal Power Plant;

(b) whether the crisis will further compound when the sixth 500 mw unit will be ready to generate power; and

(c) if so, what is the total requirement of coal of the Unit and the action plan of Government to help the unit to get going in for all of its power plants?

Safe drinking water

1665. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATISAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families who have access to safe drinking tap water in their own houses, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that only 28.7 per cent rural population is fortunate to get drinking water from nearby areas while 71.3 percent rural population has to travel more than 500 meters to fetch drinking water; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the drinking water provided by hand pumps, tube wells and ponds though considered as safe by Government are unsafe hygienically?

Changes in PMGSY

†1666. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made some changes in Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; and

(b) the new areas and states which the Government are planning to connect with the same?

Assistance for training programme for rural unemployed by NGO's

1667. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has decided to launch a massive training programme for one million rural unemployed with assistance from Non-Government Organisations;

(b) if so, whether it has suggested formation of a rural NGO's forum at State level and a Confederation of NGOs for rural India at National level;

(c) if so, whether a massive training programme in different parts of the country will be done by utilizing vehicle of rural NGOs already working in close coordination with Gangotri; and

(d) if so, to what extent this programme of providing training to one million rural unemployed has been successful so far?

Unproductive land in country

1668. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 25 million hectares of land is lying unproductive in country;

(b) if so, whether Government have revived the various schemes and programmes for the improving wasteland through making it productive to use in the next five years by involving community and private participation in the country;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Food for Work programme in Andhra Pradesh

1669. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantity of foodgrains released to Andhra Pradesh under Food for Work programme for the year 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005, district-wise;

(b) the details of guidelines proposed by Union Government to Andhra Pradesh for proper utilisation of foodgrains under the programme; and

(c) whether Government propose any new mandatory guidelines for efficient functioning of this scheme and whether Government would enact a law making atleast 100 days compulsory employment to every villager in India through food for work programme?

Assistance for development of wasteland

1670. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAPART has given assistance for developing wasteland, creating water and food security improving environment and generating employment opportunities in the country.

(b) if so, the number of such projects sanctioned in various States and funds sanctioned to each of such project; and

(c) the area of land that will be treated by such projects in various States?

Potable water under Swajaldhara Programme

†1671. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide funds for the arrangement of potable water in all the village inhabitations under Swajaldhara Programme;

(b) if so, by when the sanction would be accorded;

(c) whether Government are considering to reduce the public welfare fund from ten per cent to five per cent on economical basis in the tribal dominated inhabitations; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Role of handicrafts in rural development

†1672. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out any study on the role of handicrafts in rural development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of efforts being made by Government for balanced development of handicrafts etc. in rural areas;

(d) whether any proposal sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding the same is lying pending with the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Food for work scheme

†1673. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in which 'Food for work' scheme is in force and the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

number of persons who got employment under this scheme;

(b) the quantum of foodgrains and the funds provided by Government under this scheme; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to implement this scheme in all districts, if not, the reasons therefor?

Proposal for development of rural areas in Madhya Pradesh

†1674. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Government under the central scheme regarding rural regions;

(b) the action being taken by Government on the proposals; and

(c) by when the approval would be accorded to these proposals?

Construction of roads in rural areas in Gujarat with the help of NABARD

†1675. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads in the rural areas of Gujarat being constructed with the help from 'NABARD';

(b) the number of metalled roads proposed to be constructed with the funds from 'NABARD'; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent for the said work?

Abhinavdhara and Rehwas Schemes

†1676. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received

from the district Panchayat of Ujjain through Madhya Pradesh Government under Abhinavdhara Scheme and Rehwas Scheme related to rural housing;

(b) the action being taken by Government in respect of these proposals; and

(c) by when approval would be accorded to these proposals?

Impact of forest conservation Act on rural development scheme

1677. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government has asked for the Ministry's intervention for getting clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests for implementation of some rural development schemes where the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is involved;

(b) if so, whether any such request has been made by Tamil Nadu Government; and

(c) if so, action taken by Government on the State's request?

Maintenance/repairing of roads

†1678. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) who have been entrusted the work of repair/maintenance of roads and plantations of trees under Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) the number of years for which such contracts has been given;

(c) the total length of roads of which plantation of trees has been carried out under this scheme; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the State-wise details of success rate of such tree plantations schemes?

Rural roads in Gujarat

1679. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to construct roads in rural areas in the State of Gujarat during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the total kilometers of roads to be constructed; and

(c) the total fund allotted to the State Government for the construction of these roads?

Production of bivoltine silk

1680. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the production of bivoltine silk in the country during 2003-04;

(b) what is the estimated production of bivoltine silk in the country during 2004-05;

(c) the expected production of bivoltine silk from Karnataka during 2004-05;

(d) whether there is any proposal to introduce sericulture technology machines to increase production of bivoltine silk;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) how many such sericulture technology machines are proposed to be provided to the farmers in Karnataka?

Subsidy to powerloom sector

†1681. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with a view to salvage the powerloom sector from the crisis, Government are considering to provide subsidy to the industry in view of hard time being faced by textile industry particularly powerloom sector for last few years and on account of abolition of quota system in international trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of the action taken/to be taken?

Development of Indian Textile Industry

†1682. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the potentialities for development of Indian textile industry have increased in the aftermath of abolition of quota system in USA;

(b) if so, whether any suggestions have been proposed to Government by textile industry for its development;

(c) if so, what are these suggestions and whether revision of labour laws has also been suggested; and

(d) what are Government's reactions thereto?

Assessment of the post quota system

†1683. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

assessment of the situation/challenges arising out of the abolition of the quota system in the world textile trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering any special scheme to overcome the sickness of the textile industries keeping in view the possible boom in the export;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Suggestions of textile companies regarding post quota regime

1684. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Textile Companies, bracing up for quota free regime in global textile trade beginning from January, 2005 have raised objections to Agriculture Ministry proposal to subsidise cotton exports in the wake of record cotton production this year;

(b) whether Agriculture Ministry had earlier proposed WTO compatible subsidy for export of cotton, as a measure to stabilize domestic cotton prices and avoid distress sale by farmers;

(c) whether ICMF has pointed out that export assistance would only enrich cotton traders who export rather than farmers; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government have agreed to the suggestions of textile companies?

Textile units in Tamil Nadu

1685. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile units, powerlooms, handloom, synthetic yarn,

ready made garments and hosiery items manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the amount spent by Government on development of textiles during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to promote export of fabrics manufactured in these units?

Slump in cotton industry

†1686. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton industry of the country is reeling under constant slump;

(b) whether a steep decline has been registered in the year-wise production of silk cotton (Narma) during the last 10 years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to provide relief to the cotton ginning industry in the country?

Production of cloth in powerloom and handloom sectors

1687. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of production of cloth in powerloom and handloom sectors during the last three years, year-wise; separately;

(b) the quantum of export of cloth by both powerloom and handloom sectors, year-wise during the same period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to boost export of cloth and garments?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Implications of multi-fiber pact on textile sector

1688. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that multi-fiber pact will help textile sector to become \$ 100 billion industry by 2010;?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of job opportunities likely to be created in this sector by 2010 and annual export earning expected during 2010-11?

Assistance to Surat Textile Industry

1689. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assured financial aid and assistance to Surat (Gujarat) Textile Industry Unit due to damage caused in last Monsoon floods;

(b) to what extent financial assurance was declared by the Textile Minister and how much was released and given to these Textile Units; and

(c) why the full amount which was announced by the Ministry was not given to them and by when the remaining amount is to be given?

Objectives of silk project set up with Japanese aid in Chhattisgarh

†1690. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives and aims of the silk project conducted with help of Japan in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the amount of this project and the amount of help received at present;

(c) the names of the NGO's and amount paid to them in this project and the works for which payment has been made; and

(d) the details of the amount spent on basic work and non-productive works (establishment expenditure etc.) for production in this project?

Computer aided design centres

1691. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Computer aided design centres set up by the Ministry, State-wise, during the last three years;

(b) the number of such centres proposed to be set up during the current year in each State;

(c) whether handloom and other traditional industries engaged in textile production would also have access to these design centres; and

(d) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme?

Joint Ventures in Textile Industry

1692. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is ample scope for Joint Ventures in Textile Industry between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details of the areas carved out by Government for competitive advantage in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage the joint ventures in Textile Industry between India and Pakistan?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Indian Institutes of Handloom
Technology**

1693. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian
Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHT)
are yet to make a mark;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and
Government's action for betterment;

(c) if not, the reasons for these IIHTs
being still not capable of inspiring more
youths to make a career in Handloom
sector; and

(d) the details of Annual budget,
courses, the number of students and
performance of all six IIHTs?

Assessment of the apparel parks

1694. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the Central Government
propose to establish some new apparel
parks in the country;

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

(c) whether the Central Government
have assessed the successful working of
the already established apparel parks in
the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Clandestine Imports of Chinese raw
silk**

1695. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will
the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government have launched
Futures Trading in cocoon and raw silk at
the National Commodity and Derivative
Exchanges to enable the actual users to
cover price fluctuations;

(b) whether this move will solely
benefit the buyer/end-users of cocoon and
raw silk to the detriment of producers/
sellers who are small marginal farmers; and

(c) what are reasons of addressing in
the basic issue of clandestine imports of
Chinese raw silk resulting in destabilization
of domestic market?

NEW DELHI;
The 10th March, 2005
Phalguna 19, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

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