

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the November 18, 2002/Kartika 27, 1924 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Development of North-Eastern Region; Disinvestment; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice ; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—141

Development of NER

1. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Development of North-East a priority, says Shourie" which appeared in the Times of India, New Delhi, dated 4th October, 2002;

(b) whether the North Eastern Region would soon become the hub of international investment from being a hot bed of insurgency;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that payments to industrial houses, SSI units and others are not being made by North Eastern States, particularly Government of Manipur; and

(d) if so, to what extent the development of North East would be viable when the payments for projects are not cleared promptly by these States?

Utilisation of funds for the development of NER

2. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no expenditure has been incurred during the last two years out of the funds allocated for the development of the entire North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to draw up quick developmental programmes for the proper utilisation of the funds earmarked for the purpose?

Delay on disinvestment

3. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the delay in disinvestment has proved bad for market and Government's image;

(b) if so, whether the Indian industry is not happy about the recent flip-flop on disinvestment;

(c) whether according to them the disinvestment fiasco would adversely affect the market sentiment and the overall economic sentiments;

(d) if so, whether both the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister have been urged to take immediate final decision for continuance of disinvestment policy; and

(e) if so, by when Government are likely to take final decision on these issues?

Evaluation of industries for disinvestment

†4. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH
'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether evaluation of PSUs is done after selection of industries for disinvestment by Government;

(b) if so, names of the PSUs that have been selected for evaluation by Government, so far; and

(c) the amount paid to the evaluating institutions?

Heavy industries for disinvestment

†5. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified heavy industries which have been selected for disinvestment;

(b) if so, the names of the industries for which decision has been taken to make disinvestment and when; and

(c) the basis of the priority fixed for disinvestment?

Time-bound programme for disinvestment of heavy industries

†6. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any time-bound programme for disinvestment of industries under Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have laid down any criteria for priority disinvestment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Strategic sale of BPCL and HPCL

7. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been resistance from the opposition as well as from some quarters in the ruling alliance including the Union Ministers against Government's proposal for the strategic sale of BPCL and HPCL; and

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

Sale of Hotel Centaur

8. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

“RSS group gains 35% in four months, on Centaur sale”, which appeared in the Economic Times, dated the 19th October, 2002;

(b) whether the sale of Mumbai Centaur Hotel by Batra Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. to the Sahara Group is illegal; and

(c) whether Government are now considering insertion of a clause in the agreement which would make a PSU buyer share a part of the booty with Government if he sells it off before a stipulated period?

Setting up of Joint Parliamentary Committee

9. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made in a section of the media that a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be set-up to examine and ensure that all cases of disinvestment of public sector units are adequately examined;

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

(c) the details in this regard?

PSUs under the Disinvestment Scheme

10. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the PSUs divested, so far, and proposed to be divested under the disinvestment scheme along with details of the PSUs and the amount realised/proposed to be realised in each case; and

(b) what would be the fate and status of the existing employees of the PSUs after their disinvestment?

Disinvestment of equity in NALCO and SCI

11. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to disinvest Government equity in NALCO and the Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the extent of contemplated disinvestment; and

(c) the route through which disinvestment is to be effected?

Target and achievement made in disinvestment

12. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the target set and achievement made in disinvestment during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the reasons for not achieving the target, if any;

(c) the target set for disinvestment annually during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) how Government propose to achieve the target of disinvestment?

Proposal for disinvestment of PSUs during Tenth Plan

13. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the disinvestment of public sector units during Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the names and number of PSUs proposed to be divested during the current financial year; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise?

Valuation method and appointment of asset valuers

14. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the valuation methods and asset valuers selected by Government for the purpose of valuation during the last three years and Government's public assets (BALCO, VSNL, IBP) sell out programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are selecting merchant banks as asset valuer;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, the details and norms adopted by Government for the selection process, both the valuation method and asset valuer?

Sale of Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.

† 15. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no consensus has emerged among different Ministries for the sale of Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a state of confrontation between Ministries of Petroleum, Heavy Industries and Finance have erupted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Evaluation of Amarkantak, Kavardh and Manipat mines

† 16. SHRI NANDI YELLAIHAH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not providing information regarding procedure of evaluation and outcome of the evaluation of Amarkantak, Kavardh and Manipat mines of BALCO and captive power plant of the company and land of rolling sheet plant and other assets to the Comptroller and Auditor General by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General has alleged in its primary report that this Ministry has misappropriated 320 crores of rupees in disinvestment of BALCO; and

(c) the complete details of explanation provided by his Ministry to Comptroller and Auditor-General in this regard?

Resentment and protests against disinvestment

17. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been widespread resentment and protests against disinvestment in profit making public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government;

(c) whether Government are contemplating review of disinvestment policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sale of PSUs

18. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sale of several PSUs is held up due to non-implementation of Government policies and pressure tactics from various quarters;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the PSUs which are likely to be divested during the next one year?

Review to disinvestment of PSUs

19. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fresh review has been made in regard to disinvestment of the public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details of any new guidelines laid down therefor;

(c) whether Government have taken a final decision about the PSUs in respect of which disinvestment will be undertaken during this fiscal year; and

(d) how much disinvestment has already taken place and how much is expected during the rest of the year?

Evaluation of assets of public sector hotels and PSUs

†20. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that assets of public sector hotels including PSUs have not been properly evaluated due to present disinvestment policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that assets of worth of Rs. 500 crores have been sold for Rs. 50 crores as per this evaluation system;

(c) if so, the reasons for selling off such precious assets of the country in the name of disinvestment;

(d) whether Government have fixed or proposed to fix accountability in matters of such thoughtless disinvestment; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

PSUs for disinvestment

21. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of disinvestment, the policy guidelines and terms and conditions governing disinvestment;

(b) the criteria for identifying a PSU for disinvestment;

(c) the number of PSUs divested, so far, the proceeds therefrom and the purpose for which it was used;

(d) whether it is a fact that proper assessment of the actual worth of the PSUs and efforts to market and attract good bidders is not made;

(e) whether Government propose to modify the current procedure for disinvestment; and

(f) if so, the details and reasons for modification thereof?

Protest against disinvestment policy

†22. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that protest against disinvestment policy of profit earning PSUs is going on;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government had to face such protest even before disinvestment process was initiated in PSUs of petroleum sector; and
- (d) if so, the reasons compelling Government to disinvestment PSUs of petroleum sector?

Setting up of Asset Management Company

23. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has set-up any Asset Management Company;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the functions of such a company; and
- (d) whether it has served the purpose for which it has been set-up, so far?

Report of N.K. Singh Committee on Disinvestment

24. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the N.K. Singh Committee on Disinvestment has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the main observations and recommendations made therein; and
- (c) the decisions taken thereon?

Sharp decline in the PSU stock valuation

25. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have sought

some information from the SEBI in regard to sharp decline in the PSU stock valuation recently;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the response of SEBI in the matter?

Disinvestment of NALCO

26. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to disinvest the stakes in respect of the National Aluminium Corporation (NALCO) ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such disinvestment; and
- (c) the profits/losses incurred by NALCO during each year since 1999-2000 onwards?

Sale of Hotel Centaur

27. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the entity to which the Centaur Hotel was sold off to HCI, has further sold it at a premium of around Rs. 30 (thirty) crores;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time lapse between the sale and re-sale and the condition of the market;
- (d) whether there was any condition of locking period attached to the original sale deal; and
- (e) whether Government agreed to the deal raises serious question about the valuation of the asset preceding the sale and the method adopted therein?

Campaign for elimination of polio cases

28. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched sometime back a country-wide campaign for eliminating the polio cases amongst the children;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the target set and target achieved during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the incidence of polio cases is showing an upward trend in some selected States in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures contemplated to control the same?

Upgradation of Medical College in Assam

29. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to upgrade any Medical College in Assam at par with AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government will take such proposal in the interest of people of North-East?

Infrastructural deficiencies in hospitals

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

(a) whether any review has been undertaken, in co-ordination with the States, to assess the infrastructural deficiencies in

hospitals in various States in the wake of death of 14 children in two days in September, 2002 in the State-run B.C. Memorial Hospital in Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to help the States in upgrading their infrastructure and other facilities in the hospitals and also for effecting structural changes like inclusion of private and community representatives in the State Medical Councils etc., towards greater participation and awareness on the needs of health system?

Funds for development of district hospitals in Tripura

31. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated by Government to the State of Tripura in the year 2002-2003 for development of the district hospitals as per proposal of the State Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the funds have been allocated for creation of the super speciality block in the G.B. Hospital of Tripura; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Abortion Pill

32. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to introduce the Abortion Pill (M.T.Pill) in the Government's Family Welfare Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to formulate guidelines to streamline the distribution of the pill in order to ensure its safe and effective use?

CGHS beneficiaries registered with CGHS dispensaries

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

(a) the number of CGHS beneficiaries registered with each CGHS dispensary in Delhi and outside Delhi from 1st January, 2001 to 31st October, 2002;

(b) the areas covered by each CGHS dispensary under modern system of medicine;

(c) the details of the monthly average attendance of beneficiaries at CGHS dispensaries/units of ISM & H during this period; and

(d) the names of CGHS dispensaries/units of Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani System of Medicines separately having highest number of monthly attendance of beneficiaries treated per day during this period?

Use of Nimesulide

34. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2670 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the Nimesulide Medicine prescribed for the treatment of fever and pain relief has been reported to have serious complications in children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the medicine has been withdrawn in many countries and its marketing banned;

(d) whether Government propose to take similar action in this regard; and

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

Regulatory standards on medical devices

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

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

(a) whether there is any plan of his Ministry to bring in regulatory standards on the medical devices manufactured by various manufacturers in the country;

(b) whether the proposed standards are also applicable to the items imported into the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Mental disorders

36. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "At AIIMS, mental health takes a backseat", which appeared in the Indian Express, dated 22nd August, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons for this bad state of affairs;

(c) whether Government are aware that as per WHO report of April, 2001, mental disorders are on the rise and it has declared mental disorders as world emergency; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to upgrade, modernize and revamp the Department of Psychiatry?

Illegal private nursing homes

37. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Crackdown on illegal nursing homes", which appeared in the Times of India, dated 28th August, 2002 regarding the illegal private nursing homes mushrooming in the capital;

(b) if so, the number of nursing homes found short of the norms laid down; and

(c) the kind of remedial action taken against them and whether any fresh norms have been laid down in this regard?

Ban on gutkha products

38. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) the role his Ministry has played in retaining the ban on gutkha in the States with the ban on gutkha products being imposed in many States;

(b) the response of his Ministry to the fact that many Gutkha associations in these States have got stay orders from their respective High Courts against the ban; and

(c) the strategy adopted by his Ministry to tackle the situation legally against gutkha associations that look for legal loopholes?

Bill on ISM & H

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

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

(a) whether Government propose to bring before Parliament a Bill on the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed policy would be integrated with the composite national health delivery apparatus;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Medical Colleges

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

(a) the number of medical colleges functioning at present in various parts of the country, name-wise/State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to set-up more medical colleges in the country during the Tenth Plan;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Two child norm

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have projected small family in the National Population Policy, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons why Government dropped the plan of 'two-child' norm in the family planning programme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the National Commission on Population has submitted a proposal to Government favouring the 'two-child' norm to meet the goal of achieving the T.F.R. of 2.1 by 2010; and

(d) if so, the action Government have taken on that proposal?

AIIMS doctors on foreign assignments

42. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

(a) the number of senior doctors belonging to AIIMS who have gone abroad on assignments, at present;

(b) the names of senior doctors who have since completed assignments abroad but not joined duty in AIIMS;

(c) whether Government have issued any directions to erring doctors to resume their duties by a specific date; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Increase in TB cases

43. SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that there have been high rate of TB cases in Delhi;

(b) if so, the complete details of TB patients reported in various hospitals of Delhi during the last one year;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are setting up a Multi-drug Resistance TB Treatment centre in some hospitals of Delhi;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether there can be cases of TB where there are no apparent symptoms of TB?

Bio-terrorism

†44. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to make the labs of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) capable to combat the threat of bio-terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to take assistance from foreign agencies for the said purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Polio cases

45. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of polio cases reported from different States of the country as on the 30th June, 2002;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the names of States from where these cases were reported;

(c) the steps being taken to make the country polio-free during next five years; and

(d) the details in this regard?

Sale of spurious drugs

46. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of spurious drugs has reached an alarming proportion throughout the country for sometime past;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the offence and conviction therefor during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address the problem?

Bio-medical waste disposal by AIIMS

47. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether AIIMS has been flouting the rules on bio-medical waste disposal;

(b) if so, the details of their limitations to follow the Bio-medical Waste Management Rules;

(c) whether the Delhi Pollution Control Board officials have issued a warning to this Centre; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

Hepatitis 'B' vaccine

48. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pilot activity for introducing Hepatitis 'B' Vaccine in the Universal immunization Programme was initiated in the city of Hyderabad, Chittoor and Vijayanagar districts of Andhra Pradesh, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the pilot projects;

(c) whether Government propose to extend this Vaccine in Universal Immunization Programme throughout Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

AIDS cases in India

49. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been placed among the top five AIDS-ridden countries in the world;

(b) if so, the details of AIDS-affected people in the country for the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government and the State Governments are not in a position to provide free medicine to the AIDS-affected people; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to involve NGOs and to provide cheaper medicines?

Death of SI of Delhi Police in AIIMS

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a Sub-Inspector of Delhi Police died recently

allegedly due to the negligence of a doctor in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps, if any, taken in this regard against the concerned doctor for his alleged misconduct and negligence; and

(d) if answer to part (c) be in negative, the reasons therefor?

Cases of child mortality

51. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of child mortality in the country during the year 2001-2002, and upto August, 2002;

(b) the prime causes of child mortality stating the number against each of these causes; and

(c) whether such death-cases are increasing or decreasing in comparison to the cases of last two years?

Shortage of doctors and staff in hospitals

†52. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in almost all the hospitals including AIIMS, patients have to suffer as a result of shortage of doctors and other staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to fill up the said vacant posts?

Inadequate medical facilities in rural and hilly areas

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the inadequate medical facilities available in rural areas especially in forest and hilly areas where most of the people are below the poverty line;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to financially assist the State Governments for setting up of dispensaries in these areas in order to provide proper medical facilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial allocation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Taking away of autonomous powers of MCI

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to take away from the Medical Council of India its autonomous powers to supervise all matters concerning medical education, such as running of colleges, framing of syllabi, quality control etc., and to replace the medical professionals with officers of his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the justification for the switch over in favour of non-professionals, who may have no medical background?

Drug testing

55. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether a consumer can take a strip of medicine and get it tested in any authorised laboratory to detect a fake drug;

(b) if so, the names and addresses of such laboratories in Delhi, Hyderabad and Kolkata; and

(c) how an average consumer can detect a fake drug without such testing facility?

Sale of harmful drugs

56. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of medicines containing harmful drug formulations which have been banned abroad are being freely sold in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken, if any, during the last three years to ban such medicines; and

(d) the other measures being contemplated to eliminate the sale of these harmful medicines?

Deaths due to AIDS in NER

57. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of people are dying of AIDS in North-Eastern Region in the country;

(b) if so, the details of deaths for the last three years;

(c) whether Government will propose special package for combating AIDS menace in the North-Eastern Region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Use of herbal products by beauty parlours

58. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

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

(a) whether herbal products used by the beauty parlours can cause allergy;

(b) whether Government have developed any regulatory mechanism to ensure that only qualified persons and tested cosmetics are allowed in the profession;

(c) whether during the seminar organised by the Indian Medical Association, they had warned against the unchecked use of herbals by unqualified practitioners; and

(d) if so, the follow-up action taken by Government?

Discrimination against AIDS/HIV positive persons

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a Pune-based (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) group of AIDS/HIV positive persons is lobbying for an end of discrimination of the victims by the society and hospitals; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard so that apathy in providing proper medical care to such victims is removed and guidelines issued so that hospitals all over the country do not spurn such AIDS/HIV patients?

Work culture in AIIMS

†60. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that AIIMS has deviated from its basic mission of medical research and training as set by Rajkumari Amrita Kaur;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the policies are not complied with seriously in AIIMS affecting thereby its work culture to a great extent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Donation of organs

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

(a) whether Government are aware that people hesitate to come forward for donating their organs due to lack of awareness and prevailing apprehensions and doubts while donation of organs could save millions of lives every year;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any plan to encourage people to come forward for donating their organs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Fake drugs

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

(a) whether it is a fact that onus of fake drugs lies with the genuine manufacturers of medicines to prove that it is not their product; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to amend the law for severe punishment against the spurious drug manufacturers?

Study on working of CGHS

63. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sponsored and carried out a study in the working of Central Government Health Scheme, recently;

(b) if so, the broad conclusions of the study; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to improve the working of the scheme?

Financial assistance to strengthen immunization programme in Andhra Pradesh

64. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State of Andhra Pradesh has been adjudged to be the best performing State in achieving the population control targets throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any special financial assistance is proposed to be given to the State to strengthen its immunization programme and to improve the institutional arrangements for the overall health and well-being of the individual families; and

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

News-item, "AIDS Scourge in Vijayawada"

65. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "AIDS Scourge in Vijayawada", which appeared in the Hindu, dated the 3rd September, 2002; and

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to check the spread of AIDS and educate the people about the seriousness of the situation?

Health schemes in Assam

66. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally-sponsored health schemes and programmes formulated and implemented in the State of Assam during the last three years;

(b) the details of funds allocated, released and the amount actually utilised in Assam during this period; and

(c) the details of achievements made in this regard?

NEIGRIHMS, Shillong

67. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS), Shillong will become a premier health institute like AIIMS in North-East Region;

(b) whether the amount of Rs. 422.60 crores approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 7th February, 2001, has been fully spent and thereby achieved the target;

(c) the number of departments of medical science which have been set up in NEIGRIHMS till today; and

(d) the new plans proposed for the development of this institute?

Committee to monitor sale of spurious drugs

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

(a) whether Government have set up a special committee to monitor the sale of spurious drugs in the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the members of the committee and its terms and reference;

(c) whether sale of spurious drugs will be covered under the strict punishable offence; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Death of infants due to lack of proper care

†69. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 24 lakh infants below the age of five years die due to lack of proper care every year;

(b) if so, the effective steps Government have taken to resolve the said problem; and

(c) the complete details thereof?

Amount spent on repair of machines in Dr. RML Hospital

†70. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of machines got repaired in the Dental Department of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi during the last year along with the amount spent on each machine;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government are aware that the HOD has been issuing certificates that the machines are in working condition, whereas the machines are not in working condition;

(c) if so, the action Government have taken against the HOD who has issued the fake certificates while the machines are out-of-order; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Mental health services in the country

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

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the WHO Report, about 25 million people are in need of mental health services in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the facilities provided to the psychiatry department in different Government hospitals in various States; and

(d) the details of the shortcomings being faced by these Government hospitals due to lack of funds, etc.?

Mismanagement in health sector

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have focussed its attention towards the shortcomings in medical sub-centres, public health centres and child care centres, as mentioned in the annual report of the Department of Family Welfare for the year 1999-2000; and

(b) if so, the effective steps taken by

Government to put in order the prevailing mismanagement in the health sector?

Childless women

73. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study by the International Institute for Population Studies, India's Southern and Western Regions show a higher percentage of childless women at the end of their reproductive span;

(b) whether Andhra Pradesh has the highest incidence of childless women followed by Goa;

(c) if so, the percentage of childless women between 45—49 years of age, State and UT-wise, and the comparative world figures; and

(d) the reasons to which higher incidence of childless women is attributable?

Suggestions to control population

74. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had received suggestions in the year 2001 from Secretary, Orissa's Ex-MLA's Council to control population rise; and

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions and the steps taken, so far, in this regard?

Polio cases

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government's claim that there are no cases of polio in the country have proved false as polio cases have come to the notice in the past few months, as reported in the Times of India, dated 3rd September, 2002;

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

(c) whether Government are wasting crores of rupees every year on polio eradication drive; and

(d) if so, the amount spent by Government on such drive during the past three years and the steps Government propose to take to eradicate this disease?

Strikes by staff and doctors

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

(a) the details regarding the strikes by the staff and doctors of Government hospitals and CGHS dispensaries in National Capital Territory of Delhi during the last one year as a result of which public and poor persons had to face great difficulties;

(b) the reasons for strikes by the doctors and staff of concerned hospitals/dispensaries;

(c) whether Government have taken any necessary action against such employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Financial assistance for upgrading rural hospitals

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

(a) the details of financial assistance granted by WHO and World Bank for upgrading the rural hospitals in the various parts of the country during the last five years and till date;

(b) if so, the details of amount actually released, so far, for upgrading the rural hospitals in the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Medicine for HIV/AIDS

78. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no medicine at present can cure HIV/AIDS;

(b) whether it is also a fact that HIV/AIDS patients are mainly from slums living below poverty level and truck drivers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that anti-retro viral drugs for controlling the virus are so costly and the affected people are not in a position to purchase; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to provide medicine at cheaper rates?

News-item, "Lasik can lead to complications: Expert"

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Lasik can lead to complications: Expert", which appeared in the Times of India, dated the 27th September, 2002;

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address the problems highlighted therein?

Treatment in private hospitals

80. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that huge number of patients are denied opportunity of treatment in reputed private hospitals and nursing homes throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to bring forward necessary legislative and/or administrative measures setting forth effective guidelines for the proper treatment of patients in private hospitals; and

(c) if answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

States lagging behind in implementation of health schemes

†81. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many States are lagging behind in proper implementation of various health schemes of Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the laxity on the part of States is one of the main reasons for population growth as per the Planning Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Industrial units running in losses

†82. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified these industrial units which are continuously running in losses for the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of such units and the extent of capital investment by Government and other sources in these units as on March, 2002; and

(c) the losses suffered by each of these units?

Dues of employees in PSEs

83. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of employees' dues with Public Sector Enterprises on account of salary and wages and other statutory dues as on 31st March, 2002, enterprise-wise along with the number of workers employed in each unit; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to pay the dues?

Outstanding statutory dues of PSUs

84. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Group of Ministers (GoM) on payment of outstanding statutory dues of PSUs on August 14, this year had directed the administrative Ministries to prepare the mode of payment in six weeks; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details and the response of the administrative Ministries thereto?

Returning of land by BHEL to State Government of MP

85. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BHEL is returning a considerable land occupied by them in Bhopal to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh;

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

(c) the modalities for handing over the land back to the State Government?

Guidelines for approval of foreign investment in print media

†86. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any guidelines for the approval of foreign investment in print media; and

(b) if so, the details of such guidelines and whether the proposal of foreign investment would be considered in the light of these guidelines or the procedure of taking decision on case to case basis would be followed?

Code of conduct for Private Journalism with PCI

87. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking to formulate a Code of Conduct for Private Journalism in association with Press Council of India;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider imposing laws to electronic media companies to restrain from showing controversial, anti-communal, terrorist operations details etc., on TV; and

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

Proposal for compulsory weekly television holiday

88. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a compulsory weekly television holiday in view of the damage that television has done to society at large and to families in particular;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have done media survey on the ill effects of 24 hours television;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Launching of the Kashir Channel of Doordarshan

89. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan had launched the Kashmir (Kashir) Channel with the sole purpose of nailing Pakistan's

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

lie and integrating the people of the valley with the rest of the country;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to find out the utility of the channel for which it was set up; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Guidelines for the functioning of the CBFC

90. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to review the existing guidelines, laid down in 1983, for the functioning of the Central Board of Film Certification so as to bring them in tune with the post-satellite television and internet operations and also to give greater autonomy to the Board for its effective independent functioning;

(b) if so, the specific areas of guidelines identified for amendment; and

(c) the steps taken to ascertain the views of the concerned interests in the film industry, leading artists and others and the present status of the proposal?

Review of FDI in print media

91. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering review of FDI in print media;

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

(c) the limit of FDI's share in print media and their role in the decision taking?

Ordinance to regulate the working of cable TV network

92. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued an ordinance to regulate the working of cable television network in the country;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the cable viewers who have been threatened by the cable operators with a hefty hike in the cable charges with immediate effect?

Adult-oriented advertisements on TV channels

93. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many advertisements running on various TV channels that are adult-oriented and obscene for the Indian society;

(b) the action Government propose to take against TV channels that are showing such commercials; and

(c) whether Government propose to restrict advertising companies on making and TV channels for showing such adult oriented commercials?

Vijayawada T.V. production centre

94. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to convert the Vijayawada T.V. production centre into a full-fledged kendra; and

(b) if so, Government's response in this regard?

Surrogate advertisements in media

95. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of surrogate advertisements in media which have come to the notice of Government in the recent past; and

(b) the steps taken for arresting this unfair practice?

Seminar on Law of Arrest, Police Power and Accountability

96. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two day Seminar on Law of Arrest, Police Power and Accountability was organised in Delhi in October-end;

(b) if so, the highlights and outcome of the Seminar;

(c) how would it help to solve the current problems faced by Government in this field; and

(d) the details of recommendations that have been suggested at the conclusion of the Seminar?

Incentives to States on performance of the FTCs

97. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are evolving a scheme for providing incentives to States where the performance of the Fast Track Courts is comparatively better;

(b) if so, whether the Committee reviewed the performance of various States in setting up of FTCs and decided that a lumpsum incentives as grant could be placed at the disposal of High Courts for development of judicial infrastructure; and

(c) the total FTCs that have been established and the number of cases disposed off by them?

Delimitation of Parliamentary Constituencies

98. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies was reviewed at a high level meeting held recently; and

(b) if so, the main decisions arrived at the meeting?

Target of setting up of FTCs

99. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed by Government for the various States for setting up of Fast Track Courts; and

(b) the number of States which have, so far, fulfilled the targets?

**Enactment of Corrupt Public Servants
(Forfeiture of Property) Bill**

100. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has submitted a report recommending enactment of Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill; and

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

Setting up of High Courts in North-Eastern States

101. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of High Courts existing in the country at present;

(b) whether Government have any plans to set up some more High Courts in the North-Eastern States of the country;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Legal bar on witnesses turning hostile
in courts**

102. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no legal bar for witnesses in a case to retract their statements made before the investigating authorities and turn hostile in the Court of law;

(b) whether it is this tendency among the witnesses that is hampering conviction of the culprits in a number of cases; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to bring in a legislation or evolve a mechanism whereby statements once made before, say a Magistrate, is treated as final deposition and cannot be retracted or withdrawn either by the accused or the witnesses in a case?

Pending cases in High Courts

†103. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of pending cases in the High Courts in the country;

(b) the provision with regard to disposal of the cases per Judge, per year;

(c) the name of High Courts which had disposed of the highest and the lowest number of cases during the year 2001-2002;

(d) the reasons for disposal of such a low number of cases by High Courts;

(e) whether Government have formulated any scheme for speedy disposal of cases by the High Courts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**National Conference on Law and
Justice Reforms**

†104. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of National Conference on Law and Justice reforms recently concluded in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the issues mainly raised in this conference;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether any suggestion has been made to incur the most of the expenditure with regard to lower courts by Government and making provision for adequate facilities for these courts;

(d) whether any suggestion has been given to Government not to keep all the reports of law commission by saying them as confidential; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

Report of 16th Law Commission on right to Silence, arrest etc.

105. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 16th Law Commission has submitted its report on issues like right to silence, arrest, public interest disclosure, amendment in the Transfer of Property Act, Land Acquisition Act, etc; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not placing the same before the Parliament?

Transfer of cases on service matters to Lok Adalats

106. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are considering to transfer all cases on service matters from High Courts to permanent Lok Adalats being set up to clear the huge backlog of cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to fill the vacancies of Judges in the High Courts which are hovering around 145 at present?

Suggestion of CJI on pending cases in Courts

107. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India has suggested that arrears in courts continue to pose a serious problem and mooted the idea of compulsorily sending cases pending for more than 10 to 15 years to Lok Adalats;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the total Lok Adalats at present in operation;

(d) the cases that have been forwarded to them; and

(e) to what extent these Lok Adalats have reduced the arrears in courts?

Strategy to improve the working of major ports

108. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any strategy has been adopted to improve the working of major ports and to reduce costs in various areas of operation by Government and at port level;

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

(c) the results achieved in each port during the last three years; year-wise?

Foreign exchange earnings by major ports in the country

109. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether major ports of the country are earning foreign exchange through their operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and port-wise; and

(c) the strategy being adopted by the ports to increase their foreign exchange earnings?

Security clearance for the Vallarpadam transhipment hub at Cochin

110. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has sought security clearance from the Defence Ministry for the Vallarpadam transhipment hub at Cochin in view of a Naval establishment in the vicinity of the site; and

(b) if so, the details and the response of the Defence Ministry thereto?

Development of Kakinada-Marakkanam canal system with the Godavari and Krishna Waterways

111. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kakinada-Marakkanam canal system with the Godavari and Krishna waterways is to be developed and declared a National Waterway;

(b) the estimated cost of this project;

(c) whether Government have accorded its sanction;

(d) by when the work on this is likely to commence; and

(e) the other details in this regard?

Allocation for welfare schemes during Ninth Plan

† 112. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH
'LALAN':

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated during the Ninth Five Year Plan for various welfare schemes of his Ministry;

(b) the details of allocations made for this purpose, year-wise; and

(c) the State Governments who have fully utilized the amount of the allocation?

Steps for welfare of senior citizens

113. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who are more than 60 years of age or are senior citizens, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for the welfare of the senior citizens?

Welfare schemes for socially weaker sections in Rajasthan

114. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) the details of welfare schemes and programmes formulated by Government for upliftment of SCs, STs, OBCs, Adivasis, other minorities and other weaker sections in Rajasthan during the last five years;

(b) the details of funds allocated and the amount of funds spent for implementation of these schemes during this period; and

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

Senior citizens in Andhra Pradesh

115. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of senior citizens in Andhra Pradesh as per the latest Census; and

(b) the facilities which are being extended to them by the Central and State Government?

Demand for funds by SBCFDC of Tripura

116. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds demanded by the State Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation of Tripura to the NBCFDC for awarding loans to the beneficiaries;

(b) whether the said Corporation will get Rs. 2.20 crore (approx.) as the Central share of loans as early as possible on the basis of proposals put forward by the corporation; and

(c) the action taken by Government to expedite the release of funds?

Reservation for OBCs in services in Tripura

117. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any legal bar for any State to exceed certain high limit of percentage in respect of reservation;

(b) if so, the nature of restriction in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware that there is no reservation in services for OBC people in Tripura as such a limit of percentage has already attained there; and

(d) the steps Government would like to take in order to introduce reservation for OBCs in Tripura?

Implementation of welfare schemes in Assam

118. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the different welfare schemes formulated and implemented in the State of Assam during the last two years; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance allocated, released and utilised for the said purpose in the State during this period?

Implementation of welfare schemes by States

119. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various schemes for the welfare and development of SCs and STs and minorities;

(b) the funds provided by his Ministry to different States to implement the various schemes;

(c) whether the State Governments have implemented the Schemes for which the funds were provided to them during the last five years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Posts for disabled persons in Government

120. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified certain posts for disabled persons in Government and Semi-Government Organizations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to fill up these identified posts by disabled persons?

Assistance for tribal development to Assam

121. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided any financial assistance to Assam for tribal development during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount spent out of it on each scheme formulated and implemented by the Central Government?

Urban population living in slums

†122. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the percentage of urban population still living in slums;

(b) if so, the percentage of total urban population of the country living in the J.J. clusters; and

(c) the estimated amount to be spent on basic amenities for livelihood of these inhabitants?

Urban reform incentive fund

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

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out reform-linked yardsticks for the urban sector, based on which it will disburse incentive funds to the States;

(b) if so, whether it has also decided on the share of various States and Union Territories in the Rs. 500 crore urban reform incentive fund;

(c) whether the first instalment has been released to a State after it signed a memorandum of agreement with his Ministry;

(d) if so, the amount, so far, released to these States; and

(e) whether any assessment report will be sought from these States?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Encroachment in sub-way space in Delhi

124. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Hawkers suck up sub-way space", which appeared in 'The Times of India', New Delhi, dated the 25th October, 2002;

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

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to remove the encroachers in the sub-ways constructed in various parts of Delhi?

Number of small and medium towns in India

125. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and medium towns in India as per the latest census data;

(b) the measures being taken to promote the development of small and medium towns; and

(c) the allocations for this purpose as included in the Annual Plan for the year 2002-2003?

Development of towns under IDSMT Scheme

126. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and medium towns developed in various States under the centrally sponsored Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Scheme (IDSMT) so far;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to include any town in Orissa for development during the current financial year and also during Tenth Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the allocation of fund made therefor?

Drinking water in cities of Andhra Pradesh

127. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per capita availability of drinking water in metro and other cities of Andhra Pradesh has considerably declined during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Central and State Government to contain this trend and increase the per capita availability of drinking water in the cities of Andhra Pradesh?

Construction of flyover connecting South Delhi with Dwarka

128. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDA has recently inaugurated a project for the construction of a flyover connecting South Delhi with the Dwarka sub-city;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated project cost and the expected date of its completion; and

(c) the nodal agency, if any, put in place to monitor the process of construction?

Comprehensive urban transport policy for cities

129. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive urban transport policy is being formulated to introduce metro rail system in some cities like Cochin, Trivandrum, Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Kanpur to provide mass rapid transport system on the pattern of metro rail project in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the specific proposals worked out, if any, for other cities and their present status?

Remodelling of old constructions on prime locations in metropolitan cities

130. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that old constructions on prime locations in the four metropolitan cities and other major cities in the Country have rendered large pockets of real estate futile;

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey to assess the value and quantum of prime land remaining unutilised and unexploited;

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

(d) whether Government propose to

remodel and reorient construction in identified pockets to fully exploit the real estate potential so as to enhance the number of dwelling units thereat and to generate additional revenue by way of rent and tax?

Covering of the open Najafgarh drain

131. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work relating to the covering of the open Najafgarh drain between Dabri crossing and Madhu Vihar in Sector 6 of the Dwarka sub-city has been allotted to a private agency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether work on the project has since started;

(d) if so, the progress made in regard thereto; and

(e) by when, the project is likely to be completed?

Underground drainage in Mahaboobnagar, Andhra Pradesh

132. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accorded clearance for 15 kilometre long underground drainage in Mahaboobnagar in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for this project;

(c) by when the work on the project is likely to commence; and

(d) the date for its completion?

Purchase of polygraph automatic folding machines by Government Press, Nasik

133. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government Press, Nasik failed to furnish the capacity utilisation of two polygraph automatic folding machine No.0197 and 0206 which had been installed in January, 1990;

(b) whether the purchase of the said machines was not desirable; and

(c) if not, the reasons cited by the Directorate of printing to justify the amount of Rs.14.21 lakhs incurred on the purchase of said machines?

General pool accommodation

134. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government servants awaiting allotment of general pool accommodation in Delhi and outside and since when;

(b) the steps taken by Government to construct more number of general pool accommodation and by when;

(c) how many of the GPA are under unauthorised occupation;

(d) the number of Type-II quarters checked during 2002, so far, for unauthorised use or subletting in Delhi, colony-wise;

(e) the details of the quarters found subletted or for misuse and number of complaints pending for the same quarters in Delhi; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Low-cost housing for slum dwellers

135. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any concept to provide low-cost housing to the poor/slum dwellers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been proved successful;

(d) whether it is a fact that the concept is successful in Rajasthan; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not introducing the concept in various other states like Tamil Nadu?

Public park in Tyagraj Sports Complex, INA, New Delhi

136. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA" : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a public park has been developed by his Ministry/CPWD near Tyagraj Sports Complex in INA Colony;

(b) if so, the reasons why it has not been opened for the public, so far; and

(c) by when it is proposed to be opened for public?

Allotment of land to organisations on concessional rate

137 SHRINILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land allocated to different organisations at the concessional rate in the Institutional area in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the names of the organisations, description of the properties, amount for which transfers have been made, name of the organisations/individual promoters and office bearers; and

(c) the salient features of the policy parameters on the basis of which such allocations have been made?

NEW DELHI;
The 12th November, 2002
Kartika 21, 1924 (Saka)

Facilities of Press Thadas and Sheds for Dhobi in Mandir Marg, New Delhi

138. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 2773 given in Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 2002 and state:

(a) the reasons for not earmarking Press Thadas and Sheds for Dhobi in 'D' Block (Type-II), D.I.Z. area, Mandir Marg, New Delhi;

(b) whether the NDMC propose to provide the aforesaid facilities for the sake of the residents of 'D' Block, Mandir Marg, New Delhi; and

(c) if so, by when?

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

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