

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the December 19, 2003/Agrahayana 28, 1925 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Environment and  
Forests; Food Processing Industries; Human Resource  
Development; Ocean Development; Railways;  
Science and Technology; Steel;  
Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions—155

#### Import of Palm Oil

1853. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA  
SEKAR REDDY:  
SHRI RUMANDLA  
RAAMACHANDRAYYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is still dependent on  
imported palm oil due to huge deficiency in  
domestic oil seeds production; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to  
reduce dependence on imported palm oil  
and to bring import bill under check?

Andhra Pradesh had been five times less  
during 2002 as compared to those who had  
grown normal cotton;

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

(c) whether Government have collected  
any information regarding production of  
BT Cotton in other States of the country;  
and

(d) if so, the names of the States where  
BT Cotton was grown during 2002, 2003  
and per hectare net profit earned by the  
growers from it?

#### Less income from BT Cotton for farmers

†1854. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN  
SINGH 'LALAN':  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the income  
of the farmers growing BT Cotton in

#### National Policy on Pesticides

1855. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of  
formulating a National Policy on Pesticides  
of the increasing dangers to human health  
from food, drinking water etc.;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) whether the eminent agriculture scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has also called for a National Policy on Pesticides; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **MIS proposals of States**

1856. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific proposals for Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) received from various States during the last five years, year-wise, State-wise and commodities for which MIS was sought;

(b) the number of schemes approved and quantum of funds released, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the results achieved during the said period, State-wise?

#### **Export of organic farm produce**

1857. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to export Rs. 300 crores worth of organic farm produce within the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to save agricultural products from chemical pollution impact?

#### **Assistance to Uttaranchal for milk production and livestock development**

1858. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals of economic-technical assistance for milk production and livestock development have been received from Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals received during the last two years;

(c) whether all these proposals have been accepted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay?

#### **Assistance to Tripura through Hariyali project**

1859. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received a number of proposals on different projects from the Tripura Government for construction of cold storages, development of fish-market and aqua resources through 'Hariyali' programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of these proposals?

#### **Facility for assessing area under crops**

1860. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in the process of establishing an exclusive facility for assessing the area under different crops and the production thereof, using modern technologies, before the harvest, every year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?



**Improving milk production**

1861. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA  
RAO:

SHRI C. RAMACHAND-  
RAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre  
has decided to allow the National Dairy  
Development Board (NDDB) to import  
10,000 tons of milk powder;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the status of milk production in the  
country *vis-a-vis* the demands, State-wise;  
and

(d) the steps being taken to improve  
the production and consumption of milk in  
the country?

**Cultivation of lands along Indo-Pak  
Border**

1862. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the  
Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether farmers are facing  
difficulties in cultivating their lands on the  
Indo-Pak borders;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government for  
solving the problems of people living in  
International border areas of the country,  
particularly in Jammu region;

(d) whether Government propose to  
provide compensation for the loss suffered  
by such farmers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Production of food crop**

1863. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will  
the Minister of AGRICULTURE be  
pleased to state:

(a) the food crop production during the  
last three years, year-wise and crop-wise;

(b) the corresponding requirement  
during the same period, crop-wise, and year-  
wise;

(c) the surplus foodstock during the same  
period, crop-wise and year-wise; and

(d) whether the excess foodstock was  
due to overproduction or for other reasons;  
if so, the details thereof?

**Assistance to Chhattisgarh for  
Central Schemes**

1864. SHRI JHUMUK LAL  
BHENDIA: Will the Minister of  
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chhattisgarh Government  
has submitted utilization certificate and  
project report for Centrally sponsored  
Agricultural Development Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of funds that would be  
allocated to the State for various agricultural  
development schemes during 2003-04; and

(d) whether the projects have been  
approved by the Central Government as  
per the State Government's proposals?

**Management proposals of  
Maharashtra**

†1865. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will  
the Minister of AGRICULTURE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal have been  
received from Maharashtra Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



regarding overall management of agriculture during the last three years and during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

#### **Hi-tech Agriculture Demonstration Farm for Israel**

1866. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have initiated a proposal for hosting the Hi-tech Agriculture Demonstration Farm for Israeli Government;

(b) if so, the details thereon;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh approached the Government of India through a letter requesting the Government of India to allow it to host the demonstration; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

#### **Development of organic farming in Kerala**

1867. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any step for the development of organic farming in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the incentives and schemes Government propose to provide for the development of organic farming in the State?

#### **Assistance to States**

1868. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the State Government of West Bengal for assistance to modernise the agricultural systems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by Government thereon?

#### **Spurious BT Cotton seeds in Gujarat**

1869. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report that spurious hybrids of BT Cotton has found a place in Gujarat as appeared in the media;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the details of other similar incidents in other parts of the country, State-wise;

(d) whether Government have streamlined BT Cotton production;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Production of rice**

1870. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of rice, State-wise;

(b) what is the overall consumption of rice in the country;

(c) what steps are being taken to increase its production; and



(d) what is the total value of exports both in quantity and in foreign exchange?

#### **Hunger free India**

1871. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has outlined a 12-point plan to achieve the goal of hunger free India;

(b) if so, the details of the plan enunciated by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan; and

(c) what action Government have contemplated on the plan?

#### **Fishing harbours and Fish Landing Centres in Karnataka**

1872. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought financial assistance for construction, repair and renovation of fishing harbour at both major and minor ports in the State and fish landing facilities at Belikeri; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard; the amount released, so far, and the amount which remains to be released and the time- frame by which the same is likely to be released?

#### **Import of milk powder**

†1873. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Development Board had imported milk powder; if so, the quantity thereof and the

time when such import was made alongwith the countries from which it was made and also the urgency of such import;

(b) whether the Prime Minister also expressed his protest on import of milk powder; if so, the reasons for such import; and

(c) the per kilogram import price of milk powder alongwith the existing price of milk powder in domestic market and the amount involved in this deal alongwith the reasons therefor?

#### **Dairy Development Schemes for Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh**

1874. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Centrally Sponsored Dairy Development Schemes running in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details of those schemes;

(c) the amount of funds allocated to the States for the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 and the amount of funds utilized by the States;

(d) whether there has been remarkable improvement in productivity of dairy products after the implementation of such schemes in the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Promotion of Sunflower cultivation in Orissa**

1875. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



promote sunflower cultivation in Orissa;

(b) whether any step has been taken through Central Scheme with Central assistance to bring additional acres of land under sunflower cultivation during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Construction of Houses for homeless fishermen**

1876. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government is constructing houses for the homeless fishermen in the State with assistance from the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard with amount released, so far, and the amount which remains to be released?

#### **NHB proposals in A.P. and Tamil Nadu**

1877. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes or projects implemented or being implemented by the National Horticulture Board in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) what is the present status of the schemes/projects in each of these States?

#### **Shifting ICRI-SAT from Hyderabad**

1878. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Headquarters of the International Crops

Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics is going to be shifted from Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the reasons behind taking such a decision to shift ICRI-SAT from there;

(c) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government is demanding against it; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

#### **Overcharging of amount**

1879. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP:  
SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the recent judgement of the Supreme Court, the drug manufacturers have been asked to pay 50 per cent of their total liabilities for overcharging the bulk drug prices *vis-a-vis* notified price of the Government of India;

(b) if so, names of the drug manufacturers/firms and their liabilities involved on the basis of Supreme Court judgement;

(c) the names of parties who have deposited their liabilities and the names of the defaulters as on 31st November, 2003; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take against those companies who have not deposited their liabilities despite Supreme Court judgement?

#### **Recovery of bill from employees**

1880. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that payment made to empanelled hospitals for treatment of National Fertilizers Limited (NFL);



NOIDA employees against hospital estimates are in certain cases, disallowed in part on receipt of actual bills and recovered from the employees concerned; and

(b) if so, what is the basis or justification for recovery of the disallowed sum from the employee and not the hospital, which have actually received the amount?

#### **Recovery of overcharged amount**

†1881. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN  
SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the concerned Departments have sent notices to drug manufacturing companies to recover the excess price charged by these companies on certain medicines from June, 2000;

(b) if so, the dates when these notices have been sent and the details of the amount directed to pay by each of the drug manufacturers along with the names of these drug manufacturers; and

(c) whether the said amount has been recovered after this direction; if so, the details of the amount deposited by each of the companies and by when the said amount was to be deposited as per the above direction?

#### **Outstanding amount of subsidy**

†1882. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated outstanding amount of subsidy payable to individual fertilizer industries at the end of 2002 and November, 2003;

(b) the reasons for accumulating the outstanding amount;

(c) over all effect thereof on the performance of fertilizer industries; and

(d) the steps taken for improving the situation?

#### **Manufacture of Allethrin**

1883. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA  
RAO:  
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-  
RAIAH:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Allethrin has been manufactured by private people in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have issued strict guidelines for registration of alternate import sources from other countries?

#### **Payment of dues to A.P. TRANSCO**

1884. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Fertilizer Corporation of India located at Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh owes Rs. 34.62 crores to A.P. TRANSCO;

(b) if so, the reasons for not repaying the dues to A.P. TRANSCO; and

(c) by when the Ministry is going to pay the dues to A.P. TRANSCO?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Data protection to pharma MNC's**

1885. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have perceived the threat from China in displacing India in the multi billion dollar clinical drug research business;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to offer much sought comfort of data protection to Pharma MNCs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps contemplated to protect the interest of domestic Pharma companies?

**Medicines for diarrhoea and anaemia in DPCO**

†1886. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medicines such as medicines for diarrhoea, anaemia, etc. being used by poor people of the country are not included in the list of Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to include the medicines being used by the poor people of the country in the list of Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO); and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government would issue order in this direction?

**GoM recommendations on Naptha based Units**

1887. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers on fertilizers have okayed for Naptha based fertilizer units to convert;

(b) if so, what are the other recommendations made by the Group of Ministers;

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to implement these recommendations; and

(d) by what time they are likely to be implemented?

**Medicines under DPCO**

1888. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to some corporate houses charging exorbitant prices for their formulations of Ayurvedic and other indigenous drugs on the plea of natural and herbal cure;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the medicines based on indigenous formulations do not fall within the ambit of Drugs Price Control Order and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would consider including such formulations within the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 by a suitable amendment of DPCO?

**Consumption of subsidized fertilizers**

1889. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) names of companies manufacturing subsidized fertilizers in the country; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) total consumption of the subsidized fertilisers by the farmers and the amount of subsidy released during the last three years?

**Assets of closed fertilizer units**

1890. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) present status of plant and machineries, utilities and services, land and buildings and other assets of the closed fertilizer units of Sindri, Barauni, Ramagundam, Talcher, Durgapur, Gorakhpur and Haldia;

(b) whether any valuation of the above assets were done before the closure, by a competent agency;

(c) if so, the details thereof with unit-wise asset value; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Extradition of Chairman of Bhopal Gas**

†1891. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not applied for the extradition of the Chairman of the company responsible for the Bhopal Gas Tragedy even after the lapse of 10 years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Hospitals for treatment of NFL employees**

1892. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules or guidelines for empanelment of Hospitals/Nursing Homes in NCT of Delhi for the treatment of employees of National Fertilizers Ltd., Noida (NFL);

(b) whether it is a fact that the management has recently removed from approved panel, NHI Hospital and Moolchand Hospital; and

(c) if so, the dates of depanelling and the reasons therefor?

**Manufacture of Acetic Anhydride Acid**

1893. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner of control and regulation of Acetic Anhydride Acid by the Narcotics Control Bureau;

(b) manufacturers of Acetic Anhydride Acid in the country with annual production of each of those units during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether some manufacturers have reported loss of Acetic Anhydride Acid in transit or otherwise; and

(d) whether there has been any case of diversion/misuse of Acetic Anhydride Acid by the manufacturers/allottees; if so, the names of such persons and the details thereof?

**Segregation of waste before dumping**

1894. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any serious thought and acted and implemented any schemes and programmes to segregate organic, inorganic and biodegradable waste

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi



before dumping the garbage in dumping grounds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether similar waste is being dumped in our rivers; and

(e) if so, the steps Government are willing to take to segregate garbage before dumping and allowing polluting our rivers?

#### **Production/Import of plastic**

1895. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3760 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th April, 2003 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plastic/polythene is harmful to ecology, human beings and animals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the production/import of plastic and polythene has gone up each year during last 3 years;

(c) if so, whether Government will assure that the production/import is reduced in the current and next year; and

(d) if so, how and to what extent, if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **National river conservation and other environmental schemes**

1896. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amounts released to various States under National River Conservation Programme and other environmental schemes for the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) whether the State Governments of

Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have forwarded any proposal for release of funds under National River Conservation Programme to take-up the work of Environmental Action plan for Hyderabad and Bangalore cities; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposed environmental projects in Hyderabad and Bangalore cities and the action taken by Government in this regard towards release of funds?

#### **Schemes for conservation of forests**

1897. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes of the Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years for conservation of forests, wildlife and environment in the State; and

(b) the details of financial assistance provided by the World Bank and Government for the said purpose, year-wise/district-wise?

#### **Bio-diversity conservation**

1898. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bio-diversity of the country has been assessed using satellite data including the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether the results of the study are being used in planning bio-diversity conservation measures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?



**Transgenic crop policy**

1899. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review the transgenic crop policy of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have received some adverse reports on the performance of Bt. Cotton; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Kyoto Protocol**

1900. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kyoto Protocol commits developed countries to reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emission to 5 per cent below the 1990 level by 2012;

(b) whether part of these cuts will be achieved through Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), an agreement which allows industrialized countries to invest in green projects in developing countries to earn credit for their gas emission; and

(c) if so, what are the details of this scheme?

**Wildlife sanctuaries in Chhattisgarh**

1901. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to open new wildlife sanctuaries in the State of Chhattisgarh in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal from the Forest department of Chhattisgarh to mark any areas of the State as protected wildlife sanctuaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Plants/animals species on brink of extinct**

† 1902. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite all efforts, the number of plants/animals species which are on the brink of becoming extinct, is increasing in the country; and

(b) if so, the total number of such plants and animals, State-wise/sanctuary-wise?

**Water Quality Assessment Authority**

1903. SHRI E KANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Water Quality Assessment Authority set up two years ago has not done much work;

(b) whether it is a fact that the authority had sought the formation of State Water Quality Review Committees to improve co-ordination, assess the monitoring network and identify areas needing action; and

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

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† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



### **Ozone hole**

1904. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been increase in the ozone hole;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to minimize the hole?

### **Integrated coastal zone management**

1905. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have commissioned preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) plans for a few States and Union Territories;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any project for coastal shelter belt plantation in West Bengal; and
- (d) if so, the progress made so far?

### **Eco-tourism projects**

† 1906. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details with regard to proposals received from various States regarding eco-tourism projects;
- (b) whether any such proposal has also been received from Uttaranchal State; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

### **Import of hazardous waste**

1907. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of hazardous waste imported in India each year during last five years;
- (b) the nature of such hazardous waste;
- (c) the reasons for importing hazardous waste;
- (d) the names and quantity of hazardous waste imported from each country;
- (e) the States and places where the hazardous waste is dumped; and
- (f) what is the broad policy of Government of import of such wastes?

### **Importers of chemical wastes**

1908. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some traders are freely engaged in importing restricted/banned hazardous wastes without valid permission;
- (b) if so, the list of importers of chemical wastes registered with the Ministry; and
- (c) number of complaints received against such erring importers and action taken during the last three years?

### **Sand mining on the river beds**

1909. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that sand mining on the river beds is rampant in the country, particularly in Kerala;

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† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) if so, whether such activities causes the depletion of the water levels of these rivers;

(c) whether such depletion in the water levels cause the saline ocean water entering to the fresh water rivers;

(d) if so, details thereon along with the rivers, so far, identified particularly in Kerala affected with this problem;

(e) the details of the ecological and environmental problems caused by the phenomenon; and

(f) the details of steps taken by Government to prevent further damages?

#### **Conservation and purification of rivers**

1910. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have started a scheme of conserving and purifying major rivers in the country;

(b) if so, how many rivers have been taken up under the scheme; and

(c) what is the present status of the implementation of the scheme?

#### **Pollution in NOIDA**

1911. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sector-62, NOIDA is highly polluted sector;

(b) whether its institutional area is virtually a dumping ground of garbage and filth generating in and around the sector;

(c) whether garbage dump keeps on burning throughout day and night giving rise

to thick and black smoke in the area; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to prevent this in the larger interest of the residents of the area?

#### **Maps for project tiger**

1912. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report appeared in media that there will be maps for all project tiger reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Construction of animal shelter houses**

1913. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual expenditure under the Central Scheme for the construction of animal shelter houses and Gaushalas during the last three years, year-wise and budget for the current year;

(b) the number of shelter houses and Gaushalas constructed, separately, since the inception of the scheme; and

(c) whether the scheme provides for recurring grants?

#### **Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary**

1914. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress to declare the Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary in Orissa as a project tiger reserve; and



(b) what are the salient points of the proposal from the State Government forwarded to Government for declaration of the Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary as a Project Tiger Reserve?

#### **Environment Day**

1915. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hyderabad has come forward to host the Environment Day celebrations in June 2004;

(b) whether Government have informed this to the Secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Forest clearance for lower Subansiri Dam Project**

1916. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that final forest clearance for lower Subansiri Dam Project is yet to be granted to NHPC despite all requisite formalities are completed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that diversion of 245 ha. of quarry area recommended by Government of Assam is yet to be cleared to NHPC to resume commissioning of the said project;

(c) if so, by when it will be cleared;

(d) whether construction of a park at Dam site is logical than the provision of flood protection measure downstream; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **National forest area in Maharashtra**

1917. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any notified forest area in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to preserve the forest area in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Distribution of money for infrastructure development**

1918. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question No. 68 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th December, 2003 and state:

(a) how Government are going to disburse the amount approved for Infrastructure Development to various food processing industries in the country; and

(b) whether any kind of special package is being worked out for the uplift of Tribal belts of Orissa under this scheme?

#### **Development and expansion of dairy industry**

1919. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of India being the largest producer of milk in the world, Government have drawn up a long term programme for the development and expansion of dairy industry in the country;



(b) whether participation of International dairy companies is also expected in the programme; and

(c) if reply to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the details thereof, indicating the funds proposed for and the time required to implement the same?

**Support to private enterprises for processing fruits and vegetables**

1920. MISS MABEL REBELLO:  
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the proposal of Government to lure private entrepreneur to make the food processing industry commercially and economically viable by processing and canning the fruits for domestic and International market; and

(b) the details of the support proposed to be provided by Government to the private enterprises?

**Export to Senegal**

1921. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Senegalese President during his recent visit invited Indian investors to tap Senegal market because of locational advantage; and

(b) if so, the action taken to boost Indian exports to Senegal especially rice, cotton, yarn and Pharmaceuticals in great demand?

**MoUs with Government of Assam**

1922. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what were the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between Government of India and Government of Assam in 1999 and in March, 2003 respectively;

(b) how these affected in provincialising of High Schools in Assam;

(c) what are the effects of these MoUs as regards to employment in schools; and

(d) whether it is not a step for privatisation of education in the State?

**Interim Policy Regulations by AICTE**

1923. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interim Policy Regulations issued by the AICTE and the Policy Guidelines issued by Government in respect of private medical colleges make any special provision for such institutions established by the minorities under Article 30 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the Concession, if any, enjoyed by the minority institution as distinct from other private institutions?

**Privatisation of colleges and schools**

†1924. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



Government have taken a decision to make the higher education management in accordance with the agreement of World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the privatisation and globalisation of colleges and schools would convert these institutions in shops of education; and

(d) if not, the reaction of Government?

#### **Result of BITM course**

1925. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question No. 81 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th July 2002 and to state:

(a) whether the results of the students who appeared in the final examination of the BITM course, conducted by the Utkal University, Orissa, in the year 2003, have already been declared; and

(b) if not, by when the results of the final exams of the said course are to be declared by the said University?

#### **Action Plan for women**

1926. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has recently suggested that an action plan may be prepared for informal sector keeping in view women;

(b) whether the Department of Women and Child Development has taken any action in the matter;

(c) whether any consultation have been held with any organisations and NGOs; and

(d) if so, by when, the action plan is likely to be prepared?

#### **Dual education policy**

† 1927. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many State Governments have also made a provision for board examinations for class V and VIII;

(b) whether it is also a fact that on the other side Central Government are going to make the board examination of class X in CBSE/Kendriya Vidyalayas as grade based instead of marks based; and

(c) if so, what is the justification for this dual education policy?

#### **Kendriya Vidyalayas in Chhattisgarh**

1928. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas running in the State of Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether Government have plans of opening more KVs in the State in the near future; and

(c) if so, the number of schools Government plan to open district-wise?

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



### Autonomous colleges

1929. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.G.C. had sometime back mooted the proposal to set up autonomous colleges in the country;

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

(c) the response received to the proposal from the various Universities; and

(d) whether any autonomous college has, so far, been actually set up and if so, the details thereof?

### Standard of education in Government schools

†1930. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that standard of education has fallen in Government schools;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the schemes Government are formulating to improve this?

### Education for All Summit

1931. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether India has hosted a three-day International Education for All Summit in November, 2003;

(b) if so, the countries that have participated and subjects discussed in this summit;

(c) whether any declaration was made to ensure that children particularly girls had access to free and compulsory primary education by 2015; and

(d) if so, whether the Conference urged that special measures be taken to target adult illiteracy since mothers enhance access of girls to education?

### Bill on domestic violence

†1932. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bill regarding curbing of domestic violence against women is still pending;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken regarding introduction of the said bill during the current session of Parliament?

### Women study centres

†1933. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.G.C. has taken a decision to change the name of women study centres; and

(b) if so, justification for taking such a decision?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



### MoU with Pakistan

1934. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Publishers have signed a MoU with Pakistan publishers and book sellers association to promote book trade and co-publishing; and

(b) if so, what are the details of MoU signed by both the countries and to what extent it will be beneficial to each other?

### Honouring the witch-doctors

† 1935. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :  
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has honoured 51 witch-doctors;

(b) if so, what is the basis of honouring them;

(c) whether by promoting superstitions incantation, voodooism and by honouring such witch-doctors harassment of women is not being encouraged; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to stop this?

### National Nutrition Mission

1936. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a National Nutrition Mission (NNM) has been set up recently to provide subsidized foodgrains to adolescent girls and certain other categories of people in the BPL families;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including

the specific goals set out for the Mission;

(c) the guidelines formulated, if any, to identify the nutritionally backward regions as also the categories of BPL families to be covered by the NNM; and

(d) the details of the plan of action drawn up, if any, to implement the Mission?

### Ratio of literacy in Uttaranchal

1937. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey with regard to the ratio of literacy in the State of Uttaranchal during the last two years;

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

(c) what action Government have taken to increase the literacy percentage in the State, so far?

### Funds for infrastructure development in Primary Schools

1938. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu for construction and infrastructure development of Primary Schools during the last three years under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, year-wise, State-wise and Scheme-wise;

(b) the results achieved during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) what additional measures Government propose to take for

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



infrastructure development in Primary Schools of these States?

**Universities and Colleges in Karnataka as centres of excellence**

1939. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) which Universities in Karnataka have been identified by the UGC as those with potential for excellence;

(b) the number of colleges identified as centres of excellence in Karnataka; and

(c) the amount of grant proposed to be given to these Universities and colleges?

**Meeting of UNESCO**

1940. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNESCO has held their meet in Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, the agenda of the meet and salient observations made by the participant countries in the field of education?

**Changes in curricula and course contents of IIM**

1941. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to carry out sweeping changes in the curricula and course contents of the Indian Institute of Management, throughout the country;

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

(c) whether the resources crunch are one of the major reasons for the change; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the revision of the course contents etc. might adversely affect the quality of management education and if so, preventive steps proposed to be taken to arrest the same?

**Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Karnataka**

1942. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) if so, how many residential schools for girls have been set up in Karnataka under Kasturba Gandhi Swatantra Vidyalaya, a special scheme; and

(c) how many educationally backward blocks having low female literacy and predominant SC/ST population have been covered under the National Programme for Education of Girls at elementary level in Karnataka under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

**Educationally backward districts**

† 1943. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified educationally backward districts especially in SC/ST dominated areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government for

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



the development of educationally backward districts during current Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details of fixed and achieved targets in this regard?

#### **Child and women nutrition**

† 1944. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards news item appeared in the media regarding "Kuposhan Ki Maar";

(b) whether reasons for child-nutrition and the poor rate of woman-nutrition have been ascertained; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

#### **Reservation for poor students in public schools**

1945. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA:

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

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to compel elite Public Schools to reserve a percentage of their seats for the poor and underprivileged students in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and specific objects of the proposed move;

(c) whether the matter has been discussed with various States and concerned organisations dealing with problems of education and educational administration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Violation of Girls Rights**

1946. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women in association with Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women organized a public hearing on 29th October, 2003 in Chennai on "Violation of Girls Rights";

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Commission; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government for the protection of Child Rights and to award punishments in cases of torture and sexual abuse of children?

#### **Financial assistance to creches**

1947. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide financial assistance to set up creches for the children of working women belonging to weaker sections;

(b) if so, the number of creches and their names in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the financial assistance given to them during the last three years; and

(d) the details of sanctioned fund, year-wise?

#### **Educational aid**

1948. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether India has pointed out that educational aid to India should be unconditional;

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) if so, what is the total aid that Government have been receiving from UNESCO and other world organisations;

(c) what are the conditions imposed by them and to what extent Government have accepted these conditions; and

(d) whether aid provided for education by various agencies have been fully utilised by India?

#### **Budget allocation for education**

1949. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budget allocation made for education under different schemes in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the amount allocated for the same remains unutilized by some State Governments; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Schemes under C.S.W.B.**

1950. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of schemes being run by different Ministries/department of Government for the welfare of women, children and the handicapped parallel to those of the Central Social Welfare Board;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to bring all these schemes under the control of C.S.W.B.;

(d) whether State Boards have been assigned legal status and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the funds allocated to NGOs under

these schemes during the last three years and action taken against errant NGOs?

#### **Central University status to Allahabad University**

1951. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:  
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-  
RAIAH:  
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to grant the status of Central University to Allahabad University;

(b) if so, whether some other Universities are also likely to be accorded the status of Central Universities; and

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

#### **Assistance to residential schools for women**

† 1952. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item published in the media stating the decision of Government to curtail the amount of assistance provided for opening residential schools for women by Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of the States where such women schools are being run with financial contribution of Central Government alongwith the details regarding their management?

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Concession to SC/ST students for admission**

1953. SHRI R.K. ANAND : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 5 per cent concession of marks in minimum eligibility criteria for admission in B.Ed course is given to SC/ST students by Universities;

(b) if so, whether such concession is also being given to SC/ST candidates in minimum eligibility requirement for recruitment of teachers in KVS etc.;

(c) if the reply to part (b) is in negative, what is the rationale of concession of 5 per cent marks given to SC/ST students in B.Ed course when they are being deprived of appearing in recruitment examination for teachers after completing B.Ed; and

(d) what steps Government propose to remove this impasse?

**Decentralization of recruitment process in Railways**

1954. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:  
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:  
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were wide-spread disturbances in Assam and Bihar over the recruitment process for Class D staff for NF Railways;

(b) whether Government would consider decentralizing the recruitment process down to the divisional level in order to strike a balance of proportionate representation to each divisions; and

(c) what other measures are being contemplated to ensure equitable

representation to different regions in railway recruitment policy especially for lower cadres?

**Engineers and diploma holders**

1955. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of various engineers and diploma holders is growing day by day and now searching jobs in various fields;

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

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal to issue various departmental small contracts in respect of Railways to unemployed educated engineers/Diploma holders so that these youth can start their own business and get enough experience; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Complimentary railway passes**

1956. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) number of valid Complimentary Railway Card Passes as on 1st April, 2003, category-wise and State-wise; and

(b) whether such card passes have been issued for life or are subject to renewal at specified interval or subject to check against misuse?

**Sky Bus Project**

1957. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister has approved "Sky-Bus Project"



for Mapusa-Panaji stretch in Goa to be implemented by Konkan Railways on a pilot and experimental basis;

(b) if so, whether financial sanction and administrative approval for its implementation has been granted and what is the anticipated cost per KM; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been laid down for its completion and, if so, by when it would be completed?

#### **Palace on Wheels in Karnataka**

1958. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the train "Palace on Wheels" in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Railways has conducted a feasibility study;

(c) if so, the gist of the feasibility report; and

(d) by when, will it be introduced in Karnataka?

#### **Provision of trollies at Delhi railway stations**

†1959. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would provide trollies at three major railway stations-New Delhi, Old Delhi and Nizamuddin in Delhi so that passengers could carry their luggage on the said trollies and levy nominal charges on maintenance of such trollies; and

(b) if so, the scheme of Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Vacancies in Railways**

1960. SHRI LALIT SURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are over 70,000 vacancies in the Indian Railways at present, which is adversely affecting efficiency in the Railways;

(b) the number of the vacancies as on 30th November, 2003, zone-wise and cadre-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to fill these vacancies so as to bring the situation to the level of normalcy to the extent possible?

#### **Siding track of KRI BHCO**

1961. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of industrial growth of the area around Hajira Port, railways accept the need of connecting Hajira Port to its's hinterland;

(b) whether Railways will consider to extend the siding track of KRI BHCO up to Hajira; and

(c) if so, by when this work will be taken up?

#### **Vigyan Rail**

1962. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways postponed the train "Vigyan Rail" which was intended to spread awareness about progress, the country has achieved in Science and Technology;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) if so, what are the special features of the train;

(c) the reasons for delay; and

(d) by when it is likely to go round the country?

#### **Loans by KRCL**

1963. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) outstanding loans owned by the Konkan Railway Corporation as on date;

(b) list of loans for which the Central Government or its Ministries have offered guarantees, or letters of comfort or similar assurances under whatsoever terms;

(c) total expenditure, so far, on the Konkan Railway project;

(d) cost estimate of setting up the railway project, at its launch; and

(e) whether the plans for running this project on a build-operate-transfer basis still seem viable, and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Concessions on travels**

1964. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the celebrations of 50th birth anniversary of Mata Amritanandamayi, recently held in Cochin, Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government announced concessions on travels for the people attending the celebrations; and

(c) if so, the rational for giving such concessions?

#### **Subsidies on agriculture**

1965. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governemnt have cut subsidies on agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Palace on Wheels in different States**

1966. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the 'Palace on Wheels' project in different States;

(b) whether Railways have conducted a feasibility study in States; and

(c) if so, the gist of the feasibility report, time frame, if any, set up for introduction of Palace on Wheels in States?

#### **Restructuring of Railway Boards**

1967. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering the working of Railway Recruitment Boards with a view to restructuring the Boards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?



**Training center for locomotive drivers**

† 1968. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the financial assistance for setting up of the training centres for the locomotive drivers will be provided to the M.P. Government;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) by when the training center is likely to be started in near future?

**Casualties owing to railway interview**

1969. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many casualties have occurred owing to railway interview issue very recently;

(b) why the applicants do not find free and fair atmosphere for appearing at the interview;

(c) what steps Government may deem fit to take in order to remove this fear effectively;

(d) whether any arrangement will be made so that the candidates may sit for the interview in their native State in case of All India Services;

(e) if so, from when such arrangement will be made; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Charging of super fast charges**

† 1970. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 10 or

Rs. 20 are being charged at many railway stations like Patna etc. in excess in the name of special super fast and no receipt is being given;

(b) if so, what is the justification for charging arbitrarily this amount from the persons travelling in General Class (Unreserved Coaches);

(c) whether it is also a fact that on being objected railway clerks generally quarrel with these helpless passengers; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to get the passengers travelling in unreserved coaches rid of this problem?

**Train on the pattern of 'Palace on Wheels' in Uttaranchal and U.P.**

1971. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI RUMANDLA  
RAAMACHANDRAYYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any proposal to start a service on the pattern of "Palace on Wheels" train in Rajasthan connecting religious and tourist centres in Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the places to be connected; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

**Appointments in Railways**

† 1972. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the post-wise details of appointments made in Railways during the last two years and appointments Government propose to make in the next one year;

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) when the shortage of staff was felt in the railways;

(c) the details of division-wise demands of posts and appointments made; and

(d) the annual expenditure likely to be incurred by railways as a result of these appointments?

#### **Electrification of Belpahar**

1973. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:  
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electrification of Belpahar—a Rail electrification project in Orissa, is hanging fire for years;

(b) whether Government are aware that this patch of rail line serves the Asia's largest open-cast coal mines at Basundhara area under Hemgir block and the delay has been costing a huge economic loss to the development of the area;

(c) whether Government are also aware that execution of this project would bring multiple benefits to Orissa's economy; and

(d) if so, the status of the project and the time by which electric traction would be completed and opened to traffic?

#### **Missing blankets and sheets on Patna Junction**

† 1974. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether clothes including blankets and sheets costing above Rs. 10 lakhs are missing from the store of Patna Junction in a mysterious way;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government are taking in this regard?

#### **Rail projects in Maharashtra**

† 1975. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going railway projects in Maharashtra and progress thereof till date;

(b) by when these projects are likely to be completed;

(c) the details of amount spent/ expenditure on them till date, project-wise;

(d) the funds required for completion of pending projects and the cost overrun in each project; and

(e) the necessary steps being taken by the Central Government for their early completion?

#### **Candidates appeared in RRB examination**

† 1976. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the State wise details of the percentage of candidates from Bihar and other States having aspired to take the suspended examination of the Railway Recruitment Board in Assam last month?

#### **Late running of Gomti Express**

† 1977. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to having one rack for Gomti Express train running between Lucknow and New Delhi, this train runs late for many hours and if this train becomes late any day, it remains late for a week;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) whether Government are formulating any plan to construct other rack; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Device for stalling rail disasters**

1978. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned 'Smart gadget to avert rail crashes, as appeared in the media;

(b) whether such a tiny electronic device for stalling rail disasters could be feasible for Indian railways; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

#### **Ring railway in Nagpur**

1979. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received proposal for construction of Ring Railway at Nagpur to ease traffic problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) reaction of the Railways thereon?

#### **Development of Anand Vihar as terminal**

1980. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he, in his budget speech, had announced and also made budgetary provision for developing Anand Vihar as terminal to decongest Delhi/New Delhi stations;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed terminal including platforms, stabling lines,

washing yard, approach roads, estimated cost and time frame of completion of the work;

(c) what progress has so far been made in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that the work has not been started, so far, despite budgetary allocation; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken to expedite the project?

#### **Linking of Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata by Rail**

1981. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any immediate plan to link Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata by rail;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Quota for locals in job**

1982. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing demand for quota for "locals" in jobs in the Railways;

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

(c) the policy of the Government thereon; and

(d) the details thereof?



**Doubling of rail line in Gujarat**

1983. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are contemplating to double the single railway line in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Railway's surplus manpower**

1984. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the World Bank's estimates of Railway's surplus manpower at half a million people;
- (b) if so, how new recruitment of 23,500 persons in the garb of improving safety and 3,500 constables in the Railway Police Force is justified; and
- (c) why can't the railways exercise the option of redeploying personnel after capsule training orientation programme of existing employees?

**STD/ISD/PCO booths at railway stations**

1985. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a highest bid tender commission amount varying from 100 to 200 per cent is being accepted by the administration for allotment of STD/ISD/PCO booths at various railway stations;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that no fixed percentage of commission has been prescribed to be recovered from the STD/ISD/PCO booth contractors; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

**Rail Projects in Orissa**

1986. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways has been found slow in implementing projects, as per data furnished by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation;
- (b) whether this has resulted in cost escalation;
- (c) whether it is a fact that rail projects in Orissa are moving at a snail's pace and this in turn has been hampering the development of the State; and
- (d) if so, action plan of Government to speed up execution of these projects in the State?

**CSIR techniques**

1987. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the various technologies developed by CSIR in the last decade;
- (b) how many of them have been patented/applied for patents during these years; and
- (c) how many of them have been deployed commercially?

**Investment of R&D by companies**

1988. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 86 per cent of Indian companies invest nothing on Research and Development;



(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to make it mandatory for companies to spend some of the profits of the companies on Research and Development;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Establishing more DNA testing laboratories**

1989. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether DNA technique is now much in demand to bust crimes;

(b) whether there are only four Government laboratories to conduct the tests in the country; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to establish more such Labs all over the country?

#### **Production cost of steel**

† 1990. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been continuous increase in the cost of steel production for the last three years in the country;

(b) if so, the commodities required for the production of steel; and

(c) the estimated increase in the cost of each of these commodities from March, 2000 to October, 2003?

#### **Directive for steel prices**

1991. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked the steel industry not to increase the steel prices; and

(b) if so, what are the factors attributed to this directive?

#### **Disinvestment of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam**

1992. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government for disinvesting Rashtriya Ispat Nigam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the turnover of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. during the last four years, year-wise; and

(d) the profit/loss of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam during the last four years, year-wise?

#### **Profits of VSP**

1993. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vizag Steel Plant of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. has shown profit since 2002-03;

(b) if so, the profit earned this year;

(c) whether plant was running in loss prior to that; and

(d) if so, what was the figure of loss in the previous year?

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† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Reducing exports of steel to USA**

1994. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:  
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US is putting pressure on the Government of India to restrain Indian steel companies from exporting too much steel and steel products to the US market, despite the fact that Indian exports are well within the specified limit;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government have made any efforts to reduce the export of steel to the USA; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Increasing steel prices**

† 1995. SHRI KARNENDU  
BHATTACHARJEE:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 479 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th December, 2003 and state:

(a) whether Government have assessed and reviewed the effect of the increasing prices of steel on the construction industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this upward movement is adversely affecting several consuming industries which might ultimately affect the export of steel and steel products to the foreign market; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to stabilise the steel prices in the overall interest of the economy?

**Merger of Nilachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. with Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.**

1996. SHRI DIPANKAR  
MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to merge Nilachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. with Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar step is being taken to merge IISCO (a subsidiary of SAIL) with SAIL; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Doping policy**

1997. PROF. M.  
SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any policy to deal with the doping in sports after a spate of doping scandals during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Bribe to selectors of BCCI**

1998. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH  
'LALAN':  
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of alleged bribe paid to the National Selectors of BCCI;

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

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† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) the details of enquiry conducted in the matter and the action proposed against the guilty persons?

#### **Upgrading infrastructure for selection and training**

†1999. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to change existing old infrastructure meant for selection and training of athletes for coming Olympic Games; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **National Sports Policy, 2001**

2000. DR. KARAN SINGH:  
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sports Policy, 2001 envisages use of sports diplomacy by way of organising international sports and games for strengthening of bilateral and multilateral ties; and

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

#### **Encouraging sports**

2001. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing and future plans to encourage sports other than cricket, football, hockey and tennis in the country; and

(b) the details of plans to upgrade or revamp sports infrastructure in the country?

#### **Assistance for construction of new stadia in States**

†2002. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from the States, especially from Jharkhand, for the construction of indoor/outdoor stadia during the last three years;

(b) whether all the proposals have been accorded approval and the amount released for the purpose;

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

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) by when the rest of the proposals would be accorded approval?

#### **Assistance to institutions**

†2003. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing any annual financial assistance to various institutions related to different sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the amount provided to each of the institutions during the year 2002-03; and

(c) the details of the sports being promoted by these institutions alongwith the details of the various parts of the country where these sports are being promoted by these institutions?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Utilization of sports promotion and development funds**

2004. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of funds for promotion and development of sports activities by Government during last three years, State-wise;

(b) what is the ratio of utilization of sports grants particularly in Maharashtra and Punjab as compared to other States in the country during that period, State-wise; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to ensure proper utilization of funds by States given for development and promotion of sports culture in the country?

**Promotion of sports among women**

2005. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 18 sports hostels of the Sports Authority of India there is only one sports hostel for women and no exclusive SPDA hostel for girls;

(b) whether it is also a fact that not much has been done by sports federations for development of sports among Indian women as compared to China and other European countries; and

(c) if so, what incentives, sports

facilities by opening more sports hostel and cash awards/medals are proposed to be given by Government, so as to attract mass participation by women?

**Commonwealth Games**

2006. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the plans under consideration for the proposed Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) the details of the infrastructure/provisions in view of the support required for holding the Commonwealth Games, 2010; and

(c) the total expected expenditure on various heads for the purpose?

**Commonwealth Games**

2007. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:  
SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has committed to spend around Rs. 442 million to host the Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) whether India has also undertaken to bear the 'athlete training' expenses for member countries like Australia to the extent of \$ 7.2 million; and

(c) if so, whether any decision has been taken to mobilise funds for the purpose and if so, the sources thereof?

NEW DELHI;  
The 13th December, 2003  
*Agrahayana 22, 1925 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*



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