

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the July 21, 2003/Asadha 30, 1925 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—138

Trade with countries of the commonwealth of Independent States

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

(a) the steps Government have taken to enhance India's trade with the countries of the commonwealth of Independent States;

(b) whether it is a fact that a programme was launched on 1st April, 2003;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have identified any bilateral interest and investment; and

(e) if so, the details of the areas of mutual interest?

Export of limestone from Rajasthan

2. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that limestone export from Rajasthan has been on a gradual decrease due to the decision by Government to reduce import duty and hike rail and ocean freight charges;

(b) if so, the details of the limestone export during the past five years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps Government are willing to take to revive limestone exports in the near future?

Restriction on import of dolomite as building stone

3. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that restrictions on import of dolomite as building stone have been removed by Gazette Notification dated June 27, 2001 issued by Director General of foreign trade;

(b) if so, whether prescribed use of dolomite was for the chemical industry and steel plants but now it has been passed as building material which has clearly been established that it would be used as marble; and

(c) if so, whether Government intends to reconsider the decision taken by Director General of Foreign Trade for allowing import of dolomite when Rajasthan could fulfill domestic requirement of dolomite as building material?

Review of Indo-Lankan free trade agreement

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

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

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka have decided to review the free trade agreement between the two countries signed three years ago;

(b) if so, the purpose of reviewing this agreement;

(c) whether it has been reported that India and Sri Lanka FTA could be a model for similar agreements with not only countries in the region but also elsewhere; and

(d) if so, to what extent this review would help to increase the quantity of imports allowed by both the countries?

Indo-China trade relations

5. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. M.N. DAS:

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

(a) whether a number of issues for improving trade relations between India and China were discussed and many agreements were signed;

(b) if so, whether all the hurdles between India and China have been removed in this regard;

(c) to what extent this would help in improving the trade ties between the two countries;

(d) whether a delegation of the confederation of Indian Industry which accompanied the Prime Minister had signed a number of agreements with the Chinese businessmen;

(e) if so, to what extent India has been able to tap the Chinese market; and

(f) to what extent these agreements have been helpful?

Indo-China trade

†6. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH
'LALAN':
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade between India and China would reach 10 billion dollar in the next three years as a result of the recent trade talks held with China;

(b) if so, the assessment of the value of imports as well as exports by India; and

(c) the average total value of foreign trade during the last three years with China indicating the value of imports and exports separately?

Export of Indian goods

†7. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH
'LALAN':

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

(a) whether Government have identified such countries to which export of Indian goods has started after March, 2000;

(b) if so, the names of such countries together with the goods exported to these countries; and

(c) the value of export during the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; and its percentage out of the total export?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Effect of appreciation of rupee against dollar on exports

8. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that appreciation of rupee against dollar during the last one year has affected the exports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Tobacco consumption

9. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI C. RAMA-
CHANDRAIAH:

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

(a) whether Bidi and tobacco chewing accounts for 48% and 38% of the tobacco production, respectively;

(b) whether there is any Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents; and

(c) the action proposed to make an effective legislation to cover all sorts of tobacco consumers?

Export of low quality wheat by STC

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

(a) whether STC has exported low quality wheat resulting in huge losses during the last one year;

(b) if so, the cause of such losses; and

(c) how the losses are being subsidised?

Technical agreements of MNCs with Indian companies

† 11. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Multi National Companies bidding to acquire projects in India could be forced to enter into a technical agreements or otherwise with the Indian companies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to implement the same on the basis of the proposal prepared by the Standing Committee of the Ministry; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented along with the details thereof?

Marine exports to USA

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the majority of the Indian marine products are exported to USA;

(b) if so, the details of the marine exports made to USA during the last five years; year-wise; and

(c) the other major countries to which India is exporting its marine products?

Opening of silk route *via* Nathula pass of Sikkim

13. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
DRUPAD BORGOHAIN:

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

(a) whether the recent visit of the Prime Minister and Defence Minister to China would helped in opening of the silk route of Commerce *via* Nathula pass in Sikkim;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether any discussion has been held with China to open some other route of Commerce *via* Arunachal Pradesh during their visit;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Opening of labour/service market under WTO Agreement

14. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that opening up of labour/service market and movement of people under WTO Agreement is far from being realised;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the EU countries refuse to recognise the educational qualifications from third world countries;

(c) if so, how this decision would affect the prospects of the aspiring Indian professionals;

(d) whether Government have taken up/ proposed to take up for negotiations these anomalies in the WTO Forum; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Trade with SAARC countries

† 15. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage by which trade between India and SAARC countries has increased during 2000-2001 alongwith the details thereof;

(b) the SAARC country to which Indian export has been the maximum and the goods exported in maximum quantity indicating its value in terms of dollar during the last financial year;

(c) whether Government are considering any action plan for increasing trade with SAARC countries in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Protection for traditional Indian medicines

16. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the action taken to strengthen the work already initiated in the TRIPS (Trade related intellectual property) to save traditional Indian medicines in the global consumers market in view of the extensive public health and safety risks posed by the counterfeit medicines?

Growth of exports

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Associated Chamber of Commerce has undertaken a study on growth in exports;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether highest export was to Asia and Oceania followed by North America, South America and Western European countries during 2001-02 and 2002-03; and

(d) the measures suggested to pick up exports to Africa and other regions, where decline in export has been reported?

Mutual recognition agreements between India and Singapore

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

(a) whether India and Singapore are to enter into the mutual recognition agreements by the end of the year;

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the areas of cooperation;

(c) whether both the countries would develop Indo-Singapore dialogue mechanism to further promote investment and industrial cooperation; and

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

Trade between China and India

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

(a) the turnover of the trade between China and India both in terms of imports and exports;

(b) the steps being taken to improve the export performance with China;

(c) whether the country is going for cheap imports resulting in dumping activity;

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to correct this situation;

(e) whether any new agreements have been signed during the PM's visit to China; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Purchase of tobacco

20. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether traders of Andhra Pradesh have been accused of adopting double standards in purchasing tobacco from the farmers;

(b) whether it is a fact that purchase from Karnataka was favoured at the auction centres; and

(c) the action proposed to ensure that tobacco is purchased at various auction centres?

Status of diamond processing sector

21. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the country's diamond processing sector;

(b) whether USA has proposed this sector as a potential sector for outsourcing their production of diamond studded jewellery;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how this sector is going to be benefited by the proposed US move?

Agenda for Ministerial meet of WTO

22. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the agenda for the forthcoming Ministerial meet of WTO;

(b) the issues which require detailed deliberations;

(c) India's stand on these issues; and

(d) how the country has prepared itself to help arrive at a consensus on these issues?

Export credit to exporters

23. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rate at which export credit is given to the exporters and how far it compares with China;

(b) whether transaction costs are high in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether crediting of export remittances by Banks in exporters' account is delayed; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the competitiveness of the Indian exporters in the global market as compared to China?

Targets for exports in Tenth Plan

24. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the target set for export in the Tenth Plan;
- (b) how it compares with the target set in the Ninth Plan;
- (c) the achievements made against the target in the Ninth Plan;
- (d) whether the target set for the Tenth Plan is realistic;
- (e) if so, how it is proposed to meet the target; and
- (f) the growth in exports achieved during the first year of the Tenth Plan?

Export of fruits

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

- (a) whether India's export of fruits suffered a setback on account of war in Iraq; and
- (b) if so, the loss in terms of rupees suffered as a result thereof?

Delay in clearing list of goods for import and export

†26. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kelker Committee had accepted the delay in clearing the list of goods for import and export;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken so far to overcome this delay;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the average period of delay assessed by the above Committee?

Export growth

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

- (a) as Government have estimated 12 per cent export growth, which in Rupee terms comes to Rs. 2,73,636 crores in 2003-04 as compared to Rupees 2,50,130 crores in 2002-03, what are the export earning in Rupee terms in the first quarter (1st April to 30th June, 2003);
- (b) the steps being taken to achieve this target; and
- (c) whether any fortnightly monitoring mechanism has been evolved?

Industrial growth

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that industrial growth continued to remain robust in the last two quarters ending June, 2003 with the index of industrial production registering a marginal growth;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the new growth drive could not emerge as the investment demand begins to pick up reacting to the restoration of demand supply in balances in several sectors; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the rate of industrial growth in the next two quarters?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Restriction on Chinese investments in sensitive areas

29. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to clamp down Chinese investments in sensitive sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether DIPP has recently recommended that China be placed on a list of restricted countries under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act; and

(d) if so, to what extent Chinese investments in the country have been tightened?

Medical Insurance Scheme for tobacco producers

30. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Medical Insurance Scheme has been introduced for the tobacco producers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to popularize the scheme?

Slump in industrial growth

31. MAULANA OBaidullah KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a slump in the percentage of the industrial growth in the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to accelerate the industrial growth?

Procurement of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Central Government to ask the STC to procure tobacco at higher price to enable the farmers to get a good price in the market; and

(b) if so, the action taken to bail out the farmers in distress?

Mental health institutes in Orissa

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that mental health institutes in Orissa suffer from inadequacies in manpower and infrastructure;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a steady increase in mental disorders in the State; and

(c) if so, the help rendered by Government to the cash-strapped State to effectively control this menace?

Corneal blindness

34. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a steady increase in the number of corneally blind people in the country in general and in Delhi in particular;

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

(c) the steps taken to prevent the corneal blindness during the same period and the success achieved in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that arrangements for collection of corneas are woefully inadequate in the National Capital Territory of Delhi; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Foreign assignments of Government doctors

35. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) the number of doctors of Government Hospitals of Delhi who have not returned and joined their duties after completing their foreign assignments despite Government's directives to do so; and

(b) the action taken in each case?

TB infection among employees of TB hospitals

36. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether Government have information on various TB hospitals in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware that even employees working in these hospitals become TB patients; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are willing to take to control and tackle this disease?

Status of Health Interventions for neglected children

37. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

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

(a) whether a seminar on the status of Health Interventions for neglected children was held in New Delhi in the first week of May this year;

(b) if so, whether the Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi stressed that health care system for the disadvantaged was the need of the hour;

(c) whether Government have drawn out any national programme for providing a standard health care system for the disadvantaged including the neglected children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to implement the same?

Malaria cases in MP

38. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh topped the list of Malaria positive cases among the States during 1998 and 1999;

(b) whether it continued to occupy the top position during the subsequent years also, if not, what position was held by this State during these years, year-wise, *vis-a-vis* other States; and

(c) the steps taken to take this Malaria infected State out of this situation indicating the Central aid given for fighting the menace?

Utility of blood warmers

39. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

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

(a) whether Indian made blood warmers manufactured by a Bangalore based medical electronics company named Opto Circuits were successfully used to treat injured soldiers during Iraq war to accelerate blood transfusion by maintaining donors' blood at body temperature;

(b) if so, the features of this equipment and in what type of cases it was found to be useful;

(c) whether it has been found suitable for use in accidents and trauma cases; and

(d) the steps taken to popularise use of this equipment in the hospitals and accidents and trauma centres?

Agitation by CGHS employees

40. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the CGHS employees went on an agitation in the month of May, 2003 to press for their demand;

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

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

HIV positive patients

†41. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of HIV positive patients is increasing

continuously;

(b) if so, whether Government have reviewed the causes responsible for the same;

(c) whether Government would conduct another review of the AIDS control campaign; and

(d) if so, by when?

WHO study on Indian teenage girls

42. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY
SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the WHO study, the Indian teenage girls in the age group of 12-16 years are becoming increasingly susceptible to a disease known as polycystic ovarian syndrome;

(b) if so, the salient features of the study carried out by the WHO; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the study?

Post of Publicity Assistants lying vacant in AIIMS

43. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Group 'B' posts of Publicity Assistants in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are lying vacant since a very long period as a result of which, publicity as well as editing work is badly suffering;

(b) whether the candidates who had applied for the said posts have been waiting for their interview call etc.; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, why are the AIIMS authorities dithering in filling up the said posts?

(b) the action Government have taken in this regard?

Prevention of Fluorosis

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

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of people in several parts of the country including Rajasthan are becoming older prematurely due to the fatal disease of Fluorosis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government for prevention of the disease so far and the result thereof?

Prevention of Dengue fever

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

(a) whether Government have taken any step to prevent dengue fever in Delhi, after the report of some cases in the city;

(b) whether Government are aware of serious viral fever spread over villages of Assam, which in some cases is fatal also; and

(c) if so, what help has been given to Assam Health Machinery to cope with it and what is the mode of such help?

SARS's check at Delhi IGI Airport

46. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: 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 "Pay Rs. 1000 and escape SARS check at Delhi's IGI" which appeared in the media in April this year; and

Vasectomy operations

47. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of vasectomy operations undertaken in the country continue to decline every year;

(b) whether it is a fact that apprehensions over post operation effects would dissuade men from adopting family planning operation; and

(c) how population is proposed to be checked in the circumstances?

Treatment of British heart and lung patients in India

48. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain's National Health Service wants to avail of Indian expertise in treatment of British heart and lung patients in India;

(b) whether N.H.S. officials are in India for negotiations with the Indian officials to finalize arrangements for sending patients to India for heart surgery and lung ailment treatment; and

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be finalised and put into practice?

CGHS facilities in H.P.

49. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Himachal Pradesh where CGHS facilities are available;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the approved private hospitals in the State where the CGHS beneficiaries can get treatment free of cost;

(c) whether Government have any proposal for allowing the CGHS beneficiaries to get treatment in Civil Hospital, Rohru;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Lung cancer deaths due to smoking

50. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smoking is responsible for 90 per cent lung cancer deaths as per WHO;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a total of 240 million smokers are in the country and this epidemic is spreading fast; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to control this menace, specially among children and women?

Registration of Chinese suppliers with DCI

51. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications of Chinese suppliers pending for registration with the DCI Office as June, 2003;

(b) whether it is a fact that the registrations pertaining to the Chinese origin companies are withheld for more than three to four months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what remedies are being taken to correct this situation?

Recognition of medical colleges in Maharashtra

52. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of students of reputed medical colleges in Maharashtra have been facing uncertain future for want of recognition of their college by the Medical Council of India;

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

(c) what steps have, so far, been taken to recognize those medical colleges and by when they are likely to be recognized?

Pilferage of medicines in Ayurvedic dispensaries under CGHS

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

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a large scale pilferage of medicines in Ayurvedic dispensaries under CGHS in Delhi and elsewhere because a large number of items are issued without proper receipts, thereby allowing a wide scope to doctors and staff in the dispensaries to misappropriate the medicines for which genuine patients suffer;

(b) the criteria adopted to determine whether a particular medicine is to be issued through a signed slip or otherwise; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to tighten the procedure for the issue of all medicines from Ayurvedic dispensaries so as to minimize the pilferage?

Birth rate

54. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the birth rate in India is much higher than China;
- (b) if so, whether population of India would not overtake Chinese population in the span of few years; and
- (c) in what manner Government are tackling the problem?

Artificial heart valve

†55. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any artificial valve for heart has been developed in the country;
- (b) if so, whether it has been tested and found suitable;
- (c) the estimated cost of the indigenously developed valve; and
- (d) the steps taken for large scale manufacturing of the valve in order to extend its benefit to the heart patients?

Functioning of Government hospitals

†56. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports in print media about the frequent incidents of failure of sterilization cases among women; and
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future and to improve functioning of all the Government hospitals in the country?

HIV/AIDS in NER

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

- (a) whether Government are aware that a number of HIV/AIDS cases are reported in the North Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the details of the affected people in Assam, during the last three years; and
- (c) what action is being taken by Government to control further spread of this disease in the NER, particularly in Assam?

Health schemes in Assam

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

- (a) the details of the health schemes formulated and being implemented by Government in Assam;
- (b) the details of the financial allocation made for various schemes in the State during the last five years, till-date;
- (c) whether the allocated amount for various health schemes has not been spent by the State Government; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Hepatitis drops to children

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

- (a) the number of Children to whom Hepatitis 'A', 'B', 'C' etc. drops have been given on the pulse polio pattern in the different parts of the country during the last three years, till-date, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

Ban on cigarette smoking

60. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientists at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre measured polonium-210 levels in tobacco which is an alpha particle emitting radioactive element;

(b) whether radioactivity in cigarette accounts for at least 90 per cent of all smoking related cancers;

(c) whether PO-210 float in the ambient air for the passive neighbours to inhale; and

(d) whether in view of the above, Government propose to have a complete ban on cigarette smoking in the interest of health of the citizens and if not, the reasons therefor?

CGHS dispensaries in Karnataka

61. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CGHS dispensaries functioning in Karnataka as on the date, location-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to open more such dispensaries in the State during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

WHO's norms for health sector

62. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the WHO has laid down any norms for health sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all hospitals in the country comply with the said norms; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

AIIMS doctors abroad

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Professors were staying abroad for years together on the pretext of research with connivance of the AIIMS administration;

(b) whether it is also a fact that services of such Professors have been terminated by the then Director, AIIMS and the pecuniary penalty against a few of them have been imposed; and

(c) if so, the number of Professors whose services have been terminated and the penalty imposed on each of them?

Monetary incentive on female birth

64. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a new scheme of providing increased monetary incentive on female birth;

(b) if so, whether it is enough to remove prejudices against the girl child and prevent female infanticide;

(c) whether such schemes would bring about a qualitative change in the society; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Promotion of siddha system of medicine

65. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether construction of a hospital to promote siddha system of medicine at Chennai is progressing very slowly;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to complete the project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Expenditure on CGHS medicines

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

- (a) the details of the expenditure on CGHS medicines of Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic, Unani, Allopathic system etc. in its Store Depots during the last three years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that medicines of Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani system are of poor quality;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the effective measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Family welfare programme

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

- (a) the details of the targets set for promoting family welfare programme in different States; and

(b) the allocations made by Government for the said purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plans; State-wise?

Criteria for opening of CGHS units of ISM&H

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

- (a) the policy/criteria followed by Government for providing CGHS units of ISM&H in Delhi and outside Delhi;
- (b) whether any survey has been undertaken for opening of new CGHS units of ISM&H in Delhi and outside Delhi;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government are not giving emphasis on CGHS units of ISM&H during the last five years even after availability of resources of appropriate budget; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

NGOs co-operating in health schemes

† 69. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) working in the country co-operating in the Government health schemes;
- (b) the NGOs which were given aid during the last two years and the works for which it was given;
- (c) whether utility certificates have been received and whether the works done by NGOs have been evaluated; and
- (d) if so, the results thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Withdrawal of drugs from market

70. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have withdrawn certain drugs from the market during the last one year;

(b) if so, the names of such drugs and their manufacturers; and

(c) the reasons attributed for withdrawal of these drugs by the Drug Controller General of India?

Discrepancy against ISM&H doctors

71. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth Pay Commission had recommended at par status for the ISM&H doctors with the CHS doctors;

(b) whether cadre formation of ISM&H doctors has not been done;

(c) whether CHS doctors have been given 100 per cent time-bound promotion and the same has been denied to ISM&H doctors; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to remove the discrepancy?

Ban on private blood banks

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

(a) whether Government have decided to ban private blood banks throughout the country;

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

(c) the date from which the proposed ban is likely to be made effective?

Management of medical wastes

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

(a) whether recently a Parliamentary Committee has pointed out, in its report, instances of serious lapses on the part of the Government hospitals and private nursing homes in the matter of management of bio-medical wastes;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee?

Sick public sector companies

†74. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public sector companies earning profit alongwith the number of sick ones;

(b) since when these companies are lying sick and the reasons for their sickness; and

(c) Government's policy regarding such sick companies?

Workers' dues in PSUs

75. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of a large number of Public Sector Undertakings have not been paid their wages for months together;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

(c) the details of the time-bound programme drawn up to make the payments on account of wages and other statutory obligations;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a number of such PSUs are included in the Government's list of disinvestment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and specific strategy worked out to clear dues of the employees of these Undertakings?

Representation of minorities in public sector enterprises

76. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of directors belonging to the minority community in various public sector enterprises;

(b) whether it is a fact that their representation in public sector enterprises is very low; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Production of salt from Sambhar Lake

77. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of salt from the Sambhar Lake water in Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the percentage and actual fall in the production of salt from the Sambhar Lake water during the year 2001-02 and as on the date;

(c) the reasons for the shortfall; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to improve the situation?

Crisis on CAS

78. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the ongoing crisis over CAS and lack of proper information regarding the rate to be charged for pay channels by the cable operators and the provision of set top box, Government have since kept implementation of CAS in abeyance;

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

(c) whether Government propose to hold discussions with the consumer activists and cable operators so as to arrive at an amicable settlement for implementation of CAS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Long term action plan for development of film industry

79. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any long term action plan for all round development of the film industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States apart from developing infrastructure are also giving various incentives to the film industry; and

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

Decision on CAS

80. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH
KHAN AZMI:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA
KHUNTIA:

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

(a) whether the Conditional Access
System is going to harm the end-users and
benefit the cable operators; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking
to protect interests of the consumers?

Policy for foreign news agencies

81. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether after keeping the issue of
allowing the foreign news agencies to
operate directly from India in abeyance for
over a year, Government have now decided
to review the existing policy governing
them;

(b) if so, whether Government have
called for opinions and suggestions for
continuation or modification of the policy;

(c) if so, the views and suggestions
received from various agencies;

(d) to what extent these have been
examined; and

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

Scheme on CAS

82. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme of
Conditional Access System is facing
problems in its implementation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the cable
operators are not coming to terms regarding
the implementation of the scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the
consumers are not keen to go for the set top
box and prefer to view through the cable
operators; and

(d) if so, what compromising formula is
being worked out to protect the consumers
and the steps taken in the matter?

CAS in Metropolitan cities

83. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

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

(a) the names of the metros where
Conditional Access System has been put
into force *w.e.f.* July 15, 2003;

(b) the amount that would be recovered
from the subscribers for this system;

(c) the agency responsible for providing
set top boxes to the subscribers alongwith
the cost thereof;

(d) by when Direct To Home Service
would be launched and the sources of supply
of the required equipments for the same
alongwith the cost thereof; and

(e) the utility of CAS after launching
the Direct To Home Service?

LTP and STP in Orissa

84. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LTP and STP already functioning in Orissa;

(b) whether Government have made any survey of the LTP and STP required to cover all the districts of the State; and

(c) whether Government have any plan to put LTP in Jajpur Road, Panikoili and Chandikhol?

Licenses for DTH services

85. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given licenses to operate the Direct To Home (DTH) services to some broadcasters; and

(b) if so, the names of such broadcasters and the terms and conditions thereof?

Shifting of Headquarters of Kashir channel to Srinagar

86. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced to shift the administrative Headquarters of Kashir channel to Srinagar; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard?

Settlement of CAS

87. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the various problems and issues raised by the cable operators and the general TV viewers, that are likely to arise with the operation of the Conditional Access System (CAS);

(b) if so, what settlement has since been reached in the matter;

(c) whether Government propose to bring about any amendments to the Cable Act, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) steps taken in the matter?

Revival of licences for radio and T.V. sets

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

(a) whether Government are contemplating to revive licences for radio and T.V. sets which were withdrawn some decades ago;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what would be the amount of licences for radio and T.V. sets?

Dual system under CAS

†89. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumers are in a great difficulty due to the dual system under CAS;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check the arbitrariness of the cable operators;

(c) the details of the classification of free to air channels and pay channels; and

(d) whether the science and sports related channels have been included in the free to air channel Group?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Guidelines for DTH licence

90. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines for granting the Direct-To-Home licence to the Electronic Media TV;
- (b) whether the guidelines have been followed in all the cases before granting letter of intent during the last one year; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Low power T.V. transmitter in Shimla

†91. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a very lower power T.V. transmitter has been set-up at Chirgaon in Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh during the year 2002-03;
- (b) if so, whether the area expected to be covered from the transmitter tower at Chirgaon is not being covered because the tower is behind a hill;
- (c) whether local people have requested again and again for changing its location; and
- (d) if so, by when Government would get it installed at a right place so that maximum number of people could see the T.V. programmes?

Implementation of CAS

92. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many State Governments have demanded that Centre should pay for losses due to implementation of CAS;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Governments response thereto; and

(c) the steps taken to implement CAS for advantage of the viewers?

Status of cable TV networks

93. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the cable television networks, DTH operations and Conditional Access System;
- (b) whether Government have been able to arrive at an agreement with the people concerned on the areas mentioned above; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Manufacturing set top boxes

94. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have been trying to impose CAS deliberately in connivance with some companies manufacturing set top boxes;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether CAS is not considered consumer friendly and also anti cable operator; and
- (d) if so, the facts thereof and Government's further reaction thereto?

Deteriorating standards of the Indian film industry

95. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fast deteriorating standards

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of the Indian film industry degenerating into obscenity, nudity and cultural degradation; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to ensure that the Indian films conform to the cultural ethos of India?

National Judicial Commission

96. SHRI LALIT SURI:

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

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

(a) whether Government have completed discussions with various political parties and groups in the Parliament to arrive at a consensus on the setting up of the National Judicial Commission;

(b) if so, what would be the functions of the Commission; and

(c) by when a legislation on the subject would be introduced in the Parliament?

Speedy disposal of pending criminal cases

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the criminal justice system in the country is on the verge of collapse due to delayed justice;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme for speedy disposal of the pending cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Reservation for women in Parliament

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

(a) whether Government are bringing a legislation in the coming Parliament Session for reservation for women in the Parliament and the State Legislatures;

(b) the percentage of seats Government intend to reserve for women in the Parliament and the State Legislatures; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the partners of Government are not agreeing for the reservation?

PM within the ambit of Lokpal

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

(a) whether Government have decided to bring the Prime Minister also in the cases of corruption, within the ambit of Lokpal, deviating from the recommendations of the Constitution Review Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the person to be appointed as Lokpal and the term of the office of Lokpal?

Judges in SC and HCs

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

(a) the number of judges in the Supreme Court and the various High Courts in the country, Court-wise;

(b) the percentage of SC/ST and women judges, Court-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the judicial system is not adequately represented by the above sections; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to rectify the anomaly?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

List of High Court Judges whose relatives practice in the same court

101. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the list of High Court Judges prepared by the Bar Council of India recently whose relatives are practicing in the same court;

(b) if so, the details of the high courts, the names of the judges and the practicing advocates whose relatives are judges in the same court;

(c) whether Government have taken any action to ban this type of practice under the provisions of the Advocates Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies

102. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions for holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies every five years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Circuit bench of Rajasthan High Court of Kota

103. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a forceful agitation relating to establishment of a circuit bench of Rajasthan High Court at Kota;

(b) if so, the demands made in the agitation;

(c) since when the agitation is going on; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to redress the grievances?

BCI demands for transfer of cases

104. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bar Council of India has demanded from the Chief Justice of India that cases be transferred when family members of judges are practicing in cases under the adjudication of the said judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

Security risk due to traffic of foreign vessels

105. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that going by a study by the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), increasing traffic of foreign vessels near the off shore oilfields and POL handling ports could be a security risk;

(b) whether the study has pointed out that some of the ports along the East and West coast, which handle 80% of the POL products, are declared "high risk zones"; and

(c) if so, Government's views in this regard and the action being taken to ensure security of these sensitive areas?

Implementation of Tonnage Tax Scheme

106. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started implementing Tonnage Tax Scheme in place of the existing Corporate Tax Scheme on the profits of the shipping industry;

(b) what are the recommendations made by the Rakesh Mohan Committee in this regard;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed by Government to implement the Tonnage Tax Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Single hull ships

107. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the single hull ships with the Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) the details of the ships which are more than 23 years of age;

(c) the details of the ships which were built before 1982; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to induct new ships?

Entry of old vessels in ports

108. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Paris MoU, an organisation of 20 IMO member countries, that monitors international standards has stipulated that certain categories of old vessels would be disallowed from entering its member ports

without permission and inspection of its safety standards;

(b) whether 36.5 per cent of our vessels which are 20 years old and 42.5 per cent which are 10 years old would be affected; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Winding up of CSWB

109. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that CAG, keeping in view the functioning of the Central Board for Social Welfare has suggested its continuance as useless;

(b) the amount allocated to the Board during the last five years;

(c) the details of the works done by the Board for bringing improvement in the condition of the deprived class of society so far along with the number of people benefited from it; and

(d) the agency responsible for monitoring the allocation made by the Board to various voluntary organisations along with their expenditures?

Scavengers in the country

110. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

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

(a) the number of scavengers in the country as in 1992 and 2002, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have taken up a scheme called the National Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers to liberate scavengers in 1992;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of people liberated so far under this scheme since 1992, State-wise?

District rehabilitation centres for the disabled

111. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have identified some districts in the country for setting up of district rehabilitation centres for the disabled;

(b) if so, the details of the districts identified in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the programmes that are going to be undertaken by the district rehabilitation centres; and

(d) the steps Government are taking for education and economic empowerment of disabled people in the country, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

Reservation for Economically Backward Classes in Rajasthan

112. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the decision taken by the Government of Rajasthan to extend

14 per cent reservation to the Economically Backward Classes; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and by when a decision is likely to be taken up in this regard?

Step motherly treatment to social sectors

113. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Social Watch India has arrived at a conclusion in its first Citizens Report on Governance and Development, 2003, after assessing the policies on health, education and poverty alleviation in the context of globalisation that Government give a step motherly treatment to the social sectors and its policies making the already marginalized people victims of multi-dimensional deprivations; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the measures taken to remedy the situation?

National conference on educational and economic development of minorities

†114. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a national level conference on the educational and economic development of the minorities was held in New Delhi on the 3rd May, 2003 with the efforts of the Maulana Azad Shiksha Pratisthan and the Central Wakf Council; and

(b) if so, the conclusions and decisions arrived thereat?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Cases of atrocities

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

(a) the number of cases of atrocities registered under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during the last three years, year-wise and State and UT-wise;

(b) the number of cases in which prosecutions were awarded, State and UT-wise; and

(c) the steps Governments have taken to curb atrocities on SCs and STs in the country?

Buddhists enjoy the right and privileges of the Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for not including the dalit Christians and dalit Muslims in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(d) whether, while passing the legislation for giving Scheduled Caste status to neo-Buddhists in May 1990, an assurance was given that Government would sympathetically consider to give same status to dalit Christians and dalit Muslims;

(e) if so, the reasons for not implementing the assurances; and

(f) what action Government contemplate in this regard?

Implementation of Welfare schemes in Karnataka

116. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether NGOs have been involved in implementation of various welfare schemes/programmes in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance given to the State during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have assessed the work of NGOs in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Status of Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims

117. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dalit Sikhs and dalit

Demands of disability sector

118. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agree that there is a need to look into the demands of the disability sector;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Land to landless adivasis of Kerala

119. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBALS AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any steps, after 2001, to give land to the land less adivasis of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of adivasis and landless adivasis alongwith the land distributed in each district as on the date, category-wise;

(c) whether any survey has been/or is likely to be undertaken on the encroachment of adivasi land by others; and

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

Encroachment on adivasi land in Kerala

120. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBALS AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the media's reports regarding atrocities on Adivasis;

(b) if so, the action taken, if any to discover and recover the encroached land of adivasis in Kerala;

(c) whether a compassionate forest legislation would be enacted for the State for restoring the traditional forest resources to the tribals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Population of Vanraji Tribe in Uttaranchal

† 121. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TRIBALS AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the population of Vanraji Tribe in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the population of this primitive tribe has been decreasing during the last few years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the steps being taken to stop this trend?

ST status to Labana Community in Himachal Pradesh

† 122. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBALS AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 603 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 2003 and state:

(a) the action taken by Government in accordance with the approved modalities for including Labana Community in the list of Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) the latest status thereof?

Illegal construction in Sainik Farms

123. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has recently pulled Government to prevent the illegal construction in the Sainik Farms area despite an earlier ban imposed by the Court in 1997 against such constructions;

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

(c) the steps since taken to give effect to the court's directive in this regard?

Regularisation of unauthorised constructions

† 124. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people are still living in unauthorised constructions in Delhi;

(b) if so, the percentage of such people;

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration for regularization of these unauthorized constructions;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) since when this proposal is under consideration; and

(f) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Functioning of municipalities of small and medium towns

125. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that Municipalities in the small and medium towns are facing fiscal stress because of their inability to increase upon their principal sources of revenue; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government to improve the functioning of the municipalities in the country?

Metro Railway in Hyderabad

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

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation to prepare a report for introducing Metro Railway in Hyderabad;

(b) whether State Government has proposed routes for the project;

(c) if so, the length and alignment of routes; and

(d) the estimated cost of the project?

Revenue earning of DMRC

127. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue generated and expenditure incurred during January to March, 2003 by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation;

(b) the reasons for not earning profit; and

(c) the step taken to make up the losses?

Potable water in metropolitan cities

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

(a) whether Government have assessed requirement of potable water of the metropolitan cities particularly of Hyderabad and NCT Delhi on daily and monthly basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what efforts Government have made to meet the requirements of these cities and to maintain the water quality supplied to the dwellers of these metropolitan cities?

Improvement of slum conditions in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether Government have supplemented the efforts of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to improve slum conditions particularly for making provision of basic amenities like water supply, storm water drains, sewers, community latrines and bath, street lights, shelter upgradation etc.;

- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise, city slum-wise; and
- (c) the results achieved during the said period?

Completion of delayed projects

130. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the projects costing Rs. 20 crores or more that have been undertaken by Government during the last five years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that many of the above projects have been delayed resulting in slippage of 78 per cent of the finances;
- (c) if so, whether any action plan has been prepared to complete the projects as early as possible to reduce the cost-overrun on the projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

DDA shop allotment racket

131. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some officials of DDA have been accused of duping staff and widows of lakhs of rupees through a shop allotment racket as appeared in the print media; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Potable water to urban population in Uttaranchal

† 132. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any proposals of schemes from Uttaranchal for providing potable water to urban population at the earliest; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, when these proposals were received and by when the same would be accorded sanction?

Progress in construction of Delhi Metro

133. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress in the construction of different sectors of the Delhi Metro;
- (b) whether the work in the different sectors is conforming to the schedule;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to expedite the construction work; and
- (d) by when all the phases of the Metro service are likely to be fully operational?

***High-rise buildings in Delhi**

134. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that Delhi has sixty-eight high rise buildings which are highly unsafe as they do not conform to the 12 point fire safety standards issued by the Delhi Fire Service;
- (b) if so, the steps that have been taken to ensure compliance with fire standards by these buildings; and
- (c) the future strategy being adopted so that unsafe buildings are not allowed to be occupied till safety standards are complied with?

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Development of NCR

135. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of development of the National Capital Region and the allocations for its development during the last three years and whether these funds were utilised fully;

(b) if so, whether it is being ensured that civic facilities like drinking water, roads, power etc. are concurrently developed; and

(c) whether Government are aware that Ghaziabad colonies of NCR like Suryanagar, Chandernagar, Ramprastha, are being denied Ganga water in spite of a firm commitment by UP Government to allocate 5-7 cusecs of Ganga water to them?

Encroachment in Sangam Vihar, New Delhi

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has ordered the DDA *vide* its order dated the 5th August, 2002 and the 24th February, 2003 to protect the vacant land from encroachment in Sangam Vihar, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the action DDA has taken in this regard and the details of the protected land; and

NEW DELHI;
The 15th July, 2003
Asadha 24, 1925 (Saka)

(c) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor?

Unauthorised industries in Dwarka Sub-City

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

(a) whether a number of unauthorised industries are presently functioning in the up-coming Dwarka Sub-City in Delhi;

(b) whether it is proposed to regularise 50 per cent of these industries;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the residents of Sector I of Dwarka have opposed the move as it poses a serious health hazard to the residents; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

*Slum population in Uttaranchal

†138. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the population living in slums in Uttaranchal, district-wise;

(b) whether any proposals have been received from the State Government for improving conditions in slums; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these would be approved?

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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