

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Wednesday, the July 21, 2004/Asadha 30, 1926 (Saka)*

**(Ministries : Coal and Mines; Defence; Home Affairs; Non-Conventional  
Energy Sources; Power; Rural Development; Textiles;  
Youth Affairs and Sports)**

**Total Number of questions—117**

#### **Unauthorised coal minings**

784. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many persons are mining in various coal fields unauthorisedly;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial loss suffered by coal companies/ Government on this account; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent unauthorised mining in coal fields?

#### **Shifting of CIL headquarters from Kolkata**

785. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the headquarters of Coal India Ltd. out of Kolkata; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Shortage of coal**

786. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing acute shortage of coal and now it is proposed to import coal from China and other countries;

(b) if so, what is the current shortage and its future forecast;

(c) whether it is also a fact that coal shortage has cut down production of steel which in turn has increased prices of steel; and

(d) if so, what is Government's action plan to tide over this crisis to help the steel and other industries to raise their production?

#### **Chalk mining in Uttaranchal**

†787. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large-scale mining of chalk in Uttaranchal;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the area of land in the said State permitted for mining of chalk and the number of people, to whom mining licenses have been issued in this regard;

(c) whether the mining sites have been inspected from time to time in view of the environmental sensitivity of the State;

(d) if so, whether all the mining work is being carried out as per stipulated conditions and norms; and

(e) if not, whether mining work would be regulated after inspection of the said mining sites by the experts?

#### **CIL dues from SEBs/PSUs**

788. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited (CIL) is to recover more than Rs. 6,000/- crore from various SEBs/PSUs;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the amount?

#### **Rates of royalty on coal**

†789. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested the Government of India for reconsideration of rates on coal royalty on the basis of *ad valorem*;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the increase in market price of coal during the last five years; and

(d) whether rates of royalty on coal have

been increased by 10 to 15 per cent only over the last ten years?

#### **Fake killings in Siachen**

790. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:  
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:  
SHRIMATISARLA  
MAHESHWARI:  
SHRI RAMA MUNIREDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain incident of encounters in Siachen are suspected to be fake;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that officers involved in the fake encounters were awarded gallantry awards on account of these encounters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

#### **Shortage of men, material and vessels in Coast Guard**

791. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a significant shortage of men, material and vessels in the Coast Guard;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide enough men, material and vessels

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

expeditiously to Coast Guard to face increased challenges to internal security posed by the increasing use of sea-lanes for terrorist movement, gun-running and narcotics smuggling; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce any advanced technology to make the Coast Guard function more effectively and efficiently?

#### **Increase in lower age limit for recruitment of jawans**

792. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Army has decided to increase the lower age limit of recruitment of jawans from 16 years to 17.5 years;

(b) if so, how this figure of 17.5 years has been worked out; and

(c) whether this is being done as UN Security Council Resolution has condemned the sending of soldiers below 18 years of age to the combat zone?

#### **Induction of BRAHMOS missile**

793. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to induct the Indian developed and manufactured BRAHMOS missiles into the Indian Armed Forces;

(b) if so, from when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the BRAHMOS missiles will be offered for sale to other countries?

#### **Recruitment in Army**

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

(a) whether Government are aware of declining ratio of recruitment in traditional recruitment areas of Army;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable decline in the number of people getting recruited in various recruitment offices in the State of Uttaranchal during the last ten years;

(c) if so, whether there is a proposal for opening of some more military schools in these areas to safeguard the military tradition; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take for promotion of recruitment in Army in such areas?

#### **Defence cooperation with Singapore**

795. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Singapore has asked for opening our training facilities to their Armed Forces;

(b) whether India is enhancing defence cooperation with Singapore;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how far this joint venture would help both the countries to control terrorism?

#### **Loss of Jaguar fighters**

796. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Jaguar fighter aircraft of IAF crashed in Kashmir valley in the first week of April this year;

(b) if so, the cause of crash in each case

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

as established by the statutory inquiries conducted;

(c) the number of jaguar fighter aircraft lost due to accidents during 2002-2003 and so far during 2004, year-wise;

(d) whether Government are considering any proposal to lay off these aircraft due to high accidents involving them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and how the shortfall in fighter aircraft is proposed to be made up?

#### **Indo-US Defence group meeting**

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

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-US Defence group met in the month of June and discussed strategic issues and review counter terrorism requirements of India and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

(b) whether US has shown its keenness on continuing close military ties with India;

(c) if so, whether US has offered missile defence and defence relating technology and combined military exercise;

(d) if so, whether new Government has already approved proposals of US and by what time final agreement is likely to be reached; and

(e) if so, the details of the same?

#### **Induction of Admiral Gorshkov in Navy**

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

(a) whether Government have concluded a package deal for the induction of aircraft carrier 'Admiral Gorshkov'

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any payment has been released; and

(d) what is the proposed date of induction and delivery of the platforms?

#### **Operationalisation of first phase of Karwar Naval Base**

799. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the first phase of the Naval Base in Karwar is likely to become operational;

(b) what is the amount spent so far;

(c) the amount required to complete the first phase; and

(d) when will the next phase be taken up?

#### **Selling of missiles to other countries**

800. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has agreed in principle to sell Aakash, Trishul, Nag missiles to other countries of the world;

(b) whether DRDO has created a separate wing to deal with marketing these missiles; and

(c) what steps the Ministry has taken to make India a pioneer in the Defence technology in the world?

**Acquisition of indigenously manufactured defence equipment**

801. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to spend 40 per cent of capital expenditure every year on acquisition of indigenously manufactured defence equipment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Entry of HAL into global civilian aircraft market**

802. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the aircrafts now being manufactured and proposed to be built by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore;

(b) the steps so far taken to enter the global civilian aircraft market; and

(c) the details of the negotiations for procuring orders for the aircrafts manufactured by HAL?

**Effect of unavailability of INS Vikrant**

803. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's only aircraft carrier INS Vikrant is being repaired and unavailable for use;

(b) whether because of this Navy's operations will in any way be hampered; and

(c) the action proposed to save India from such precarious situation?

**Ban on entry into DSOI, Delhi**

804. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people wearing Dhotis and Kurta-Pyjama are banned from entering Defence Services Officer's Institute, New Delhi (Dhaura Kuan); and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to remove such a ban immediately?

**Causes of Jaguar crashes**

†805. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircrafts out of the fleet of Jaguar destroyed due to the accidents and the number of pilots killed therein;

(b) whether increasing age or the absence of timely technical assistance and advice by the French company to the Air Force regarding maintenance of these aircrafts have been the main reasons for such accidents;

(c) whether the retirement of Jaguar aircrafts from the Air Force is being considered, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any other sophisticated aircrafts are being purchased as a substitute of Jaguar aircrafts; and

(e) if so, the name of the aircraft and the country where from such aircrafts are being purchased?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Arrest of Call girls by Delhi Police**

806. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Police had recently arrested a large number of Call girls from various places in the capital;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof during the last three months; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the Hotel owner who had been running the racket had amassed wealth to the extent of hundred of crores and if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken against him?

### **Re-assessment of norms regarding national calamities**

†807. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States, including Uttaranchal have made any demand for reassessment of all the norms regarding national calamities; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

### **Militants team to assassinate political leaders**

808. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been able to confirm that militant groups in Jammu and Kashmir have despatched teams to Gujarat and Maharashtra to assassinate political leaders and demolish the Mumbai Stock Exchange building as stated in the media by the Jammu and Kashmir and Gujarat Police; and

(b) if so, whether Government are in a position to provide assurances that necessary steps to counter these groups in Maharashtra and Gujarat are being taken?

### **Amnesty International remarks on violation of human rights**

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the media report to the effect that Amnesty International had accused India of suppression and attacks on human rights, curtailing human rights under the war on Terror Umbrella, whereby 'Hundreds of hundred of people suspected of terrorism were condemned to legal black holes';

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto to remove the misgivings expressed by Amnesty International; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to fight out terrorism from across the borders and inside the country?

### **Visit of European delegation to J & K**

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

(a) whether a delegation of European Parliament visited Jammu and Kashmir to study the situation in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this delegation has submitted any report to Government;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Persons killed by BlueLine Buses**

811. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons killed and injured by reckless driving of BlueLine drivers in the capital since 1st January, 2004;

(b) what is the number of drivers who have been looked for violation of traffic rules so far; and

(c) what is the number of buses involved in those accident whose permits have been cancelled during the current year?

**Shifting locations of Assam rifles**

812. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new place known as 'Maha Koikeng' at the foot hill on the West of Imphal has been developed for location of Assam rifles when it is shifted from Kaapla Fort;

(b) if so, the progress of the construction and development as on date; and

(c) by when construction will be completed and occupied?

**Economic package for Uttaranchal to deal with natural calamities**

†813. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttaranchal has sought a economic package to save Varnavat Parvat from land sliding and to deal with the natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, the funds proposed to be provided to State Government under the above head?

**Enactment of law to deal with riots**

814. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to enact a law to deal with communalism and communal riots; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Arrest of Delhi Police officials in P.M.T. leak case**

815. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the C.B.I. has recently arrested a few Delhi Police officials while taking a bribe from the parents of accused person found involved in the P.M.T. leak case;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the names of such officials;

(c) whether those officials have not been dismissed as yet and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any action was taken against the senior officers who were supervising the work of the investigating officer connected with this case and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Communal riots**

816. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise and State-wise details

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

of communal riots reported in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of casualties and the extent of loss of property in each of the incidents;

(c) the details of the cases registered and the present position of cases related to each incident; and

(d) the incident-wise details of rehabilitation of the victims and compensation provided to the family of the victims?

#### **Promotion of Hindi**

817. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the efforts being made by Government to promote Hindi;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government does not have any programme in this regard other than "Hindi Saptah";

(c) if not, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that there is a acute shortage of Hindi Typists and Hindi Officers in Government Offices; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

#### **Looting of railway passengers**

818. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of looting of railway passengers by robbers or by those offering drugged eatables to passengers during 2003, zone-wise;

(b) the number of robbers and others involved in such cases apprehended during the year, zone-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce such cases to the minimum possible level?

#### **Funds for terrorist activities from foreign countries**

†819. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds for the terrorist activities in J&K and North Eastern States are being provided by foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries which are providing such an assistance; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check such assistance being received by the terrorists/terrorist outfits in the country?

#### **Dacoities in running trains**

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

(a) the number and details of dacoities in running trains during each month since January 2004, zone-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of passengers and others killed and seriously injured in these incidents; and

(c) the steps taken by Government from January to March and April to June 2004 to curb such activities in running trains?

#### **Arrests under POTA**

821. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons detained under POTA in various places of

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



the country during the last two years alongwith the nature of charges against them;and

(b) whether there is any proposal to amend POTA and if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be brought forward?

#### **Measures to prevent rapes of minor girls**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that seven year old Garima was allegedly raped and killed by a man in a DDA flat in Keshavpuram, New Delhi in May, 2003;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the man responsible for the gory incident roamed freely;

(c) if so, what prevented police to arrest the person and bring him to book; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent rapes of minor girls?

#### **Rise in rape cases in Delhi**

823. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been, of late, a spate of cases of rape in the capital city of Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that National Commission for Women brought together in a meeting the Police, Delhi Government officials and NGOs to discuss the issue of safety of women in Delhi;

(c) if so, what are the recommendations which emerged from the meeting; and

(d) the details of action taken thereon?

#### **Militants training camps in Bangladesh**

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

(a) whether the Director-General of Border Security force has revealed that from 5 to 10 lakh Bangladeshis are illegally staying in Delhi who are having links with active militant organizations and 194 training camps are openly running in Bangladesh giving training to militants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **Insurgents, hide-outs in neighbouring countries**

825. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the existence of hide outs/camps of insurgent outfits in the neighbouring foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government of India has taken up the matter with the concerned countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the result thereof?

#### **Status of the amendment of Article 371 of the Constitution**

826. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had sent any proposal seeking amendment of Article 371 of the Constitution to remove

regional imbalance and to promote comprehensive development of Hyderabad-Karnataka region;

(b) if so, what is the present status of the above proposal; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Constitution?

#### **Insurgent outfits in Manipur**

827. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of insurgent outfits currently operating in Manipur;

(b) the approximate strength of each outfit; and

(c) the type of arms they are using and the nature of their operations and activities?

#### **Meeting of Home Secretaries of India and Bangladesh**

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

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Home Secretaries of India and Bangladesh had met to discuss various common issues between two countries;

(b) whether Bangladesh Government has shot down India's proposal to have joint patrol along the border even as two countries have agreed to work together to contain smuggling of drugs, arms and human trafficking;

(c) whether this question was also discussed by the Indian BSF Director General with his counterpart of Bangladesh in Dhaka in May, 2004; and

(d) if so, to what extent India and Bangladesh have taken steps to check infiltration to India from Bangladesh and with what results?

#### **Regulations to check lottery activities**

829. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA - CHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments in India are permitted to carry on lottery activities and if so, whether there is any law in place to regulate their activities;

(b) whether there is any machinery to monitor the activities of the lottery-organising agencies so as to prevent the abuse of law and encouragement to gambling under the garb of lottery activities;

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

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend the existing law in this regard?

#### **Atrocities on women**

830. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atrocities on women are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details of cases reported during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps Government taken to stop such incidents?

**Shortage of personnel at Bangalore International Airport**

831. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there is a shortage of personnel at Immigration Wing of Bangalore International Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether passport reading machine and a device to check visa stickers have been provided; and

(d) if not, when will they be provided to avoid fake passports and visas?

**Reforms in the Criminal Justice System**

832. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of bringing about reforms in the Criminal Justice System in the country;

(b) if so, the details of reforms that it proposes in the Criminal Justice System;

(c) whether Government propose recording of evidence of witnesses under oath in the presence of a magistrate; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Programme on solar energy in private homes**

833. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the success rate of the programme to provide solar energy in private homes and buildings in the country;

(b) why this campaign has failed in most parts of the country;

(c) what steps are being taken to provide technology to the common man to take advantage of solar energy; and

(d) which NGOs have been involved with this programme and how much grant has been provided to them?

**Achievement of Ministry of non-conventional energy sources in remote villages**

†834. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the success to extend the means of non-conventional energy sources to remote villages has not been achieved despite setting up of a separate Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the details of the State-wise achievements made; and

(d) the details of the role of this Ministry in the field of rural electrification?

**Providing free solar lantern in the villages**

†835. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide free solar lantern for power supply in the villages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Promotion of non-conventional energy sources in rural areas**

836. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state the action taken for achieving greater universalisation of non-conventional energy supplies in the rural areas to help weaker section?

**Creation of a village energy security plan**

837. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to create a village energy security plan for employment generation and overall sustainable development;

(b) if so, the number of villages to be covered during the current financial year; and

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

**Gaps between demand and supply of Power in Madhya Pradesh**

†838. SHRIP.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of giving coal to Andhra Pradesh out of the share of Madhya Pradesh on the production of electricity; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government for the State in view of the constantly growing gaps between the demand and supply of power in the State?

**Bhakra Hydel Unit**

839. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Bhakra Hydel Unit is on the verge of shutdown as the water level is plunged to the lowest level at 1466.14 feet; and

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to prevent the shutdown of hydel unit?

**Power generation through non-conventional sources**

840. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the steps Government have taken to render help and encourage. States for non-conventional power generation and explore various other resources to meet up the demand of power in view of a shortfall of thousands megawatts of power and the States depending more and more on power generating companies like NTPC, the NHPC and others, especially?

**Diversification by Power Grid Corporation into the Telecom Sector**

841. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Grid Corporation is diversifying into the Telecom Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Power Grid Corporation has already invested Rs. 1000 crores into 20000 kms. of Telecom Network;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government is aware that the 20000 kms. of telecom network is under-utilised; and

(e) the steps proposed to review such non-core activities of the Power Grid Corporation?

#### **Power generation during Tenth Plan**

842. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth Plan target of 41,000 MW will be achieved by Government;

(b) to what extent the private sector will contribute to the target of 41000 MW for the Tenth Plan;

(c) whether Government propose to revise the target downwards for the Government sector;

(d) if so, what are the bottlenecks which might lead to reducing the target of 41000 MW for the Tenth Plan; and

(e) the Plans by Government to draw up alternate strategies for power sufficiency by the end of the Tenth Plan?

#### **Difference between power production cost and selling price**

†843. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great difference between the cost of production of power and the selling price for the power-consumers in the country;

(b) if so, the average power production cost in thermal, hydel and nuclear sectors in the year 2003-2004; and

(c) the average selling price for the domestic power consumers, industrial power consumers, commercial power consumers and the power consumers of agriculture sector at national level in the country during the above said year?

#### **Projects of Power Grid Corporation**

844. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Grid Corporation has finalised 18 projects costing about Rs. 11,000 crores in 2003-2004;

(b) if so, the States where the 18 projects are likely to be located;

(c) how many other projects are pending presently;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is excessive centralisation in the implementation of these new projects;

(e) the reasons for the highly centralised nature of routine operations; and

(f) the steps proposed to ensure that projects are completed in time?

#### **Hydro-electric potential in Himachal Pradesh**

845. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the hydro-electric potential of Himachal Pradesh as assessed by the Central and State Ministries of Power;

(b) the total amount of hydro potential harnessed upto 2003 through Central, State and private sector in the State; and

(c) the details of the potential future projects identified so far for exploration in the Tenth and Eleventh Plan?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Run of the river hydel projects in  
Himachal Pradesh**

846. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Himachal Pradesh offers a very good potential for the run of river hydel projects;

(b) if so, the sites identified for the run of the river projects and the status of the execution of the projects; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there are many more potential locations in Himachal Pradesh to harvest the run of the river for generating power within a span of 5 years as has been done by Private Sector projects in Himachal and a private project in Uttaranchal?

**Merger of NTPC and NHPC**

847. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to merge National Thermal Power Corporation and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation;

(b) whether it is a fact that there would be vast economies of sale from such a merger;

(c) to what extent Government has studied the advantages of a merger between NTPC and NHPC;

(d) whether any funding agencies like the World Bank supported such down-sizing of the administrative expenditures of NTPC and NHPC;

(e) if so, the status of this proposal; and

(f) if no proposal for a merger is there, the steps proposed to study the advantages of a merger?

**Hydel power project with joint  
venture with Nepal**

848. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR  
PRASAD:

SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nepal has agreed to set up a 300 MW hydel unit in joint venture with India, an export-oriented project;

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

(c) the ratio of equity between the two countries; and

(d) the details of the regions in the country that will be served by the power so produced in the Unit?

**Bureau of Energy Efficiency**

849. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a Bureau of Energy Efficiency to suggest way to save power;

(b) if so, when was this Bureau of Energy Efficiency set up;

(c) the annual cost incurred on this Bureau;

(d) what has been its contribution to the stated objectives in 2003-2004;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government does not have a serious plan in place to save energy; and

(f) the steps proposed to rectify this situation?

**Monarchak Thermal Power Project  
in Tripura**

850. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far by the Government to set up thermal power project at Monarchak in Tripura;

(b) the present position of the project and the amount sanctioned for the project; and

(c) by when the project will be commissioned?

**Funds for the power projects in  
Kerala**

851. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sought funds for the power projects in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to allot funds, requested for;

(c) whether Government propose to allow private investments in the power sector;

(d) whether any such proposal received from the Government of Kerala is pending for sanction; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Revival of BTPS**

852. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy to revive the 240 MW Bongaigaon Thermal Power

Station (BTPS) by renovation and modernisation;

(b) whether it is fact that CEA and NTPC had agreed to take over the BTPS but now they are reluctant to do so; and

(c) if so, what is the Government's concern about the fate of the BTPS?

**System of power distribution in the  
country**

†853. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a grave situation of power distribution is gradually building up in the entire nation;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of power distribution in the country; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government for smooth functioning of power system and its sufficient availability in the country in future?

**Discrimination in distribution of  
power to States**

†854. SHRIMATIMAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are adopting different norms in the matter of distribution of power to States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether inspite of being prescribed definite norms for allotment they are not being implemented properly; and

(d) if so, the details of action proposed to be taken in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Barak Dam Project of Assam**

855. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of Barak Dam Project of Assam;

(b) whether Government are aware that this project has got the approval of the Standing Committee on Energy; and

(c) if so, the details of reasons for not sanctioning/approving the project as it has already been cleared by the Standing Committee?

### **Implementation of the power project of NTPC**

856. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is unable to implement a number of its projects in various locations on account of litigations;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with details of the NTPC projects held up on account of litigations, State-wise;

(c) what measures are being contemplated to expedite implementation of the projects; and

(d) whether setting up fast track courts to resolve the land disputes is one of the options?

### **Sale of Dabhol Power Project**

857. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is mediating in the sale of Dabhol Power Company;

(b) if so, the details of the DPC project, the parties to the project with their financial stake in the project; and

(c) the break-up of the total financial implication to the Government on account of this project?

### **Low Cost Power and Mega Power Policy**

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

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to have low cost power in the country and has prepared a package of measures in this regard;

(b) whether Government has also decided to introduce major changes in Mega Power Policy;

(c) if so, the details of the low cost power packages and changes in Mega Power Policy; and

(d) if so, to what extent introduction of measures/changes in mega power and low cost power will be helpful to the country?

### **Revision of guidelines for the Haryali and Swajaldhara Schemes**

859. SHRILALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering to revise guidelines for 'Haryali' and 'Swajaldhara' schemes so as to enable reputed NGOs to participate in the schemes;

(b) if so, by when the revised guidelines are to be framed and shall come into force;



(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and  
 (d) the experience of the Ministry, while implementing Sector Reform Programme through NGOs?

**Funds for computerization of land records**

860. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the State-wise funds so far released under Computerization of Land Records (CLR) and Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Record (SRA & ULR)?

**Funds allocated in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh for drinking water schemes**

†861. SHRIMATIMAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh under the drinking water scheme during last three years;

(b) the amount spent by these States till January, 2004 year-wise, separately;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to non-utilisation of full amount by these States no improvement has been made in drinking water situation; and

(d) if so, the amount to be provided in the next three years along with the instructions to be issued to the State Governments?

**Utilization of employment generation funds by States**

862. SHRIEKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, it is a fact that the States, which have not been effectively implementing various employment generation schemes in rural areas will have to go without further funds from the Centre;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the States which have a better track record in implementing these schemes will stand to gain when funds will be diverted from non-performing States; and

(c) if so, the states that have not been successful in utilising funds provided by the Centre for various rural employment generation schemes?

**PMGSY guidelines**

863. SHRI T. R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether it is a fact that as per the guidelines of PMGSY a village should have a minimum of 500 population; and if so, the justification thereof?

**Demand raised by Chief Ministers for more funds for rural development**

864. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Ministers demanded more funds for rural development in a meeting with Prime Minister on 29th June, 2004;

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the additional funds to be released for Andhra Pradesh package for rural development?

#### **Rural development schemes**

†865. SHRIMATIMAYASINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes being formulated for rural development for the year 2004-05 and next two years under Common Minimum Programme;

(b) whether there is any proposal to seek the views of State Governments on these schemes;

(c) whether any assessment of financial resources to implement these schemes has been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds for PMGSY**

866. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:  
SHRI ROBERT  
KHARSHIING:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the scope of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, in terms of rural roads to be constructed/repared and the quantum of funds to be provided for the purpose;

(b) whether it is a fact that the additional cess being levied on diesel will only meet a part of the total requirement of funds;

(c) whether it is also a fact that release of funds to the project is getting delayed; and

(d) in view of the urgency and importance of the project, how soon the funds will be released to the project?

#### **CMs Meet on Rural Development**

867. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister at the recently held Chief Ministers Meet on rural development in Delhi expressed the desire to decentralise spending by transferring funds to district and local Government like "China Rural Bizltub's";

(b) whether Prime Minister wanted Panchayatraj to be used as "the medium to transfer rural India into 700 million opportunities" and "CMs to become champions of decentralisation";

(c) if so, the State-wise reaction of CMs in this regard; and

(d) by when, final decision of Central Government is expected to be taken in this matter and the draft legislation to be brought before Parliament?

#### **Expenditure under Indira Awaas Yojana**

†868. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the amount spent under the Indira Awaas Yojana during the year 2003-04;

(b) whether Government have been able to achieve the annual target of construction of small homes during the said financial year; and

(c) the State-wise number of homeless people living below the poverty line?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Measures to alleviate rural distress**

869. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that food, health care and water facilities have not reached people in the remote areas like Amlashol in West Midnapore (West Bengal) where starvation deaths have been reported in June 2004; and

(b) the measures taken to alleviate rural distress at a national level?

**Funds needed under the PMGSY**

†870. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 1,32,000 crores have been estimated to be needed under the "Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana" for linking the rural areas of the country with roadways;

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

(c) the amount allocated under the Yojana by March, 2004 and actual amount of expenditure incurred?

**Success of PMGSY**

†871. SHRIMATIMAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has not yielded expected success in some parts of the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, State-wise details of success achieved during the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise provisions being made for the next three years?

**Houses constructed under IAY**

872. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of houses constructed, State-wise under Indira Awaas Yojana during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) shortage of houses in rural areas, State-wise?

**Funds spent under IAY**

873. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent State-wise under Indira Awaas Yojana during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of people benefited from this scheme, State-wise?

**Steps to remove shelterlessness**

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

(a) the steps being taken by Government to remove shelterlessness in the rural areas;

(b) the details of the current rural housing schemes open to the rural population; and

(c) the State-wise details of the number of beneficiaries under various rural housing schemes during the last five years?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Implementation of Rural Development Programmes through people at district level**

†875. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to further accelerate the pace of rural development, Government propose to entrust the responsibility of implementation of rural development schemes to people at district level;

(b) if so, what are the outlines of the proposal;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this proposal has been objected to in certain areas; and

(d) if so, the nature of the objections and the steps taken by Government to resolve the same?

**Open drains in villages**

876. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the villages have open drains; and

(b) if so, the action taken to cover the drains to improve rural health?

**Disbursement of block grants for rural development projects through district authorities**

877. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide block grants for rural development projects direct to the district

authorities instead of routing the same through the concerned State Governments;

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

(c) the State Government's reaction thereto?

**Restructuring and revival of NTC mills**

878. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) that out of 119 NTC mills 53 mills were earmarked for restructuring and revival and MoU were signed more than two years back; and

(b) what are the plan and time schedule for restructuring of these mills?

**Textiles mills in Nagaland**

879. SHRI T. R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of textiles mills in the State of Nagaland on 30th June, 2004;

(b) the performance of these mills during the last three years;

(c) the details of textiles mills run by the private sector, cooperative sector and government sector, sector-wise, in the State;

(d) the details of sick/closed mills out of them; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

**Pay package for NTC mills staff**

880. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

recent judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the pay package of the NTC mills staff;

(b) if so, the details thereon;

(c) whether Government directed the NTC mill management to sanction the above enhanced pay to the workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Branches of National Handicraft Development Corporation**

†881. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States in the country where branches of National Handicraft Development Corporation are functioning;

(b) whether any branch of National Handicraft Development Corporation is functioning in Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any proposal to open any branch of National Handicraft Development Corporation is under consideration in the current financial year?

#### **Special package for workers in powerloom and handloom sectors**

882. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning a special package for millions of workers in the Powerloom and Handloom sectors many of whom have suffered terrible losses due to the liberalization of the economy and have committed suicide and thousands have become jobless;

(b) whether there is a proposal to

provide cheap power to this sector keeping in view of the fact that the shortage and high rates of power has hit this sector more than any other; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to open depots to provide cheap raw material to these handloom workers?

#### **Package for textile processing units**

883. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new package for textile processing units is being considered;

(b) if so, whether this sector's performance has been dismal and needs to be strengthened;

(c) if so, whether Government are also promoting processing textile parks in the country; and

(d) if so, what are the other steps Government propose to take to make textile sector improve its position?

#### **Implementation of the recommendations of N. K. Singh and Satyam Committees**

†884. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that N. K. Singh Committee and Satyam Committee were constituted for obtaining suggestions for the development and expansion of the textile industry during the last few years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received the Reports of both the Committees;

(c) if so, the main suggestions of both the Committees separately; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the suggestions which have been identified by the Government for implementation?

**Subsidy on technological upgradation of small powerlooms**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering for providing subsidy on technological upgradation of small powerlooms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of powerlooms in the country at present, State-wise; and

(d) the quantum of cloth produced on powerlooms each year?

**Improving quality of Indian clothes in global market**

†886. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any scheme for improving quality of clothes at global market and for solving problems of exporters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to establish 'Made in India brand' at international level?

**Assistance for sports infrastructure in Uttar Pradesh**

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

(a) whether any Government assistance

was provided to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years for the construction of sports infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of projects completed/yet to be completed in the State as on date; and

(d) the details of steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

**Investigation into IWF and IHF affairs**

888. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to look into the affairs of the Indian Weightlifting Federation where doping standards are alleged and the Indian Hockey Federation where player selection appears to be on basis other than merit; and

(b) if so, by when the results of the enquiries made in this regard are expected to be known?

**International standard training facilities for Indian athletes**

889. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up international standard training facilities in the country to help Indian athletes prepare themselves in a better way for the next Commonwealth Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken to promote all form of sports and games in the country?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Change in venue of National Games  
2005**

890. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any change in the venue of the National Games 2005 from Assam to Jharkhand is proposed as reported in the media;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is financial crisis in preparations for holding the National Games; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to remove the financial constraints?

**Expenditure on officials and sports  
persons for Athens Olympics**

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

(a) whether Government have finalised squads for participation in Athens Olympics, 2004;

(b) if so, the details of events in which Indian squads will participate;

(c) the number of officials who will accompany the participants indicating the "criteria" for their selection (event-wise);

(d) whether it is a fact that the expenditure involved in such international games on "officials" is much more than on participating players; and

(e) if so, what is the likely "ratio" of estimated expenditure going to be incurred on officials accompanying Athens Olympics during 2004-2005?

**Steps to develop competence of rural  
sports persons**

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

(a) whether Government have till date formulated any scheme to identify promising young sportsmen in rural areas of Punjab and Maharashtra in particular and other States in general in the country, with a view to develop their competence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when, the above mentioned schemes are likely to be identified/implemented by Government with particular reference to Punjab and Maharashtra?

**Setting up youth hostel at Hosur,  
Tamil Nadu**

893. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a youth hostel at Hosur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Nehru Yuva Kendras**

894. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise break-up of Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) in the country and the number of youths enrolled with these NYKs; and

(b) the details of projects currently implemented by these NYKs?

**Development of sports at high school level**

†895. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the efforts being made by Government to encourage sports at high school level;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to open sports schools in each State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the State-wise details of the efforts being made by Government to encourage sports in the country in uniform manner?

**Formula-1 car racing**

896. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:  
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to organize "Formula-1" car racing in the country; in view of the growing world-wide popularity;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh who had indicated an interest in the matter decided otherwise;

(c) whether other States such as Karnataka and Maharashtra had indicated their interest in this sports event; and

(d) if so, whether Government has drawn up policy in this regard considering the fact that many countries organize and sponsor Formula-1 racing, in view of its public popularity?

**Copenhagen Declaration**

897. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is yet to sign the Copenhagen Declaration, a globally accepted document that recognises the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA's) code;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that SAI's Dope Control Centre (DCC) in Delhi has not yet been given accreditation by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)?

**Raise in out of pocket allowance for athletes**

898. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to raise the "Out-of-pocket Allowance" for each athlete; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Dismal performance of Indian sports persons**

899. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a Commission to go into the reasons for the dismal performance of Indian sportsmen in all areas of sports at the International competitions; and

(b) whether Government are aware that there is need to go into the working of most sports bodies in the country and provide healthy norms for their membership,

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



election, organization, administration and functioning?

(b) whether it is also a fact that many leading sports personalities were absent on this occasion;

**Torch bearers of the Olympic flame**

900. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:  
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS  
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(c) if so, whether the authorities concerned failed to extend invitation to the sports persons to the event; and

(a) whether celebrities and film stars were invited to participate in the olympic torch light procession held in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details of the criteria applied in this regard?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 15th July, 2004*  

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Asadha 24, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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