RAJYA SABHA

List of Ouestions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, the August 21, 2003/Srayana 30, 1925 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Development of North Eastern Region; Disinvestment; External Affairs; Labour; Planning; Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Total number of questions—155

Strength of CBI

3008. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total officer strength of the CBI as on 1st April, 2003;
- (b) the total strength of supporting staff;
- (c) the number of cases under investigation as on 1st April, 2002;
- (d) the number of additional cases taken up during the year 2002-03;
- (e) the number of cases dropped during the year 2002-03;
- (f) the number of cases on trial as on 1st April, 2003;
- (g) the number of cases decided during the year 2002-03; and
- (h) the number of fresh cases pushed for trial during the year?

Educated unemployed youth in Assam

- 3009. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of the educated unemployed youth in the State of Assam

who applied for loan under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana for setting up their own industrial units/business since the year 1999-2000, till date;

- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) the number of applications pending for approval; and
- (d) the reasons for the delay and the steps taken by Government or proposed to be taken for their speedy disposal?

Sanction of loans under PMRY

- 3010. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) that have been recommended for sanction of loan by the Central Government in the year 2002-03, State-wise;
- (b) how many of these have been processed by the banks, State-wise;
- (c) in how many of these cases loans have been provided in full in practice; and
- (d) the reasons why these figures differ between the number sanctioned and the number actually disbursed?

Decline in growth of cottage industries

- 3011. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a decline in the growth of cottage industries in our country;
- (b) if so, whether Government have analysed the factors for such decline in cottage industries;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to boost cottage industries specifically in remote villages to provide more employment opportunities;
- (d) the funds allocated for the development and establishment of cottage industries during the Tenth Plan period, State-wise?

Agro-based foreign industries

- †3012. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of agro-based foreign industries in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the proposals received for setting up of agro-based industries during the last three years, Statewise:
- (c) the details of proposals approved till date, State-wise; and
- (d) the measures being taken to explore possibilities of new areas in agro-based industries?

Special Component Plan of KVIC

- †3013. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the norms for selection of various districts by Khadi and Village Industries Commission under its Special Component Plan; and
- (b) the names of the districts selected under the plan particularly in the State of Jharkhand?

Rural employment in Karnataka

- 3014. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to implement programme for creating rural employment in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the achievements made in the State under this programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan period alongwith the amount spent; and
- (c) the arrangement made during the Tenth Five Year Plan period for this State?

Setting up of agro-based

†3015. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have formulated any action plan to promote setting up of agro-based industries in the rural areas of different States;
- (b) if so, the outline thereof and since when it has been initiated;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) whether Government have allotted any fixed amount to each State under the same scheme; and
- (d) if so, the said amounts for the year 2003-04?

Rural industries in Uttaranchal

- †3016. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of persons engaged in rural industries based on agriculture in Uttaranchal:
- (b) the details of steps being taken to promote the agriculture based industries in the State:
- (c) whether the State Government have requested for any financial package to improve the conditions of the rural industries of the State; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Violation of human rights

- 3017. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether cases of violation of human rights by the authorities of Department of Atomic Energy have come to the notice of Government;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard stating the number of cases reported during the last three years; and
 - (c) the action taken thereon?

Low power Atomic Reactor in Andhra University Campus

- 3018. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the present position of setting up of proposed low power Atomic Reactor in the Andhra University Campus in Visakhapatnam;

- (b) by when, the research at the Centre would start and be able to supply radioisotopes to hospitals in the region for diagnosis and treatment of cancer; and
 - (c) the details in this regard?

Setting up of Beryllium plant in Mumbai

- 3019. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a few years back a Beryllium plant was set up at Vasi Complex, New Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether any study was conducted so as to ascertain the viability of the plant;
 - (c) if so, the details in this regard;
 - (d) the present status of the said plant;
- (e) whether Government propose to shut down the said plant being non-viable;
 - (f) if so, by when; and
 - (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Deteriorating Telecommunication system

- †3020. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that due to rapid increase of mobile phone, the telecommunication system is deteriorating;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the main reasons behind it is that telephones remain out of order for a long period and these are not repaired;
- (c) if so, the action being taken by Government to repair the faulty telephones and telephone lines and to fix responsibility on the Department; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Upgradation of rural telephone exchanges

- 3021. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that rural phones are almost non-functional with no dial tone, no speech and sudden snag; and
- (b) the action proposed to upgrade rural telephone exchanges to counter the threat of surrender of connections by villagers in favour of mobile phones?

Use of mobile phones

- †3022. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the domestic telephone tariff is higher than that of mobile phones;
- (b) if so, the percentage thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the percentage of the people using mobile services; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

BSNL's free run in GSM and WLL

- 3023. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been given a free run in the GSM and WLL space and has been allowed to offer services like free national roaming to its customers;
- (b) if so, the reasons for cash bail out package being considered by Government for BSNL;

- (c) whether this package would allow BSNL to alter its cost structures by writing off both historical and present operational costs; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Manufacture of personal computers

- 3024. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of personal computers manufactured in the country during the last five years, year-wise; and
- (b) what is the number of personal computers imported into the country during the last five years, yearwise?

Threat to I.T. professionals abroad

3025. SHRI LALU PRASAD: SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian IT professionals working in various European Countries are being threatened by the contemplated changes in immigration laws of these countries:
- (b) whether there is a possibility that a large number of these professionals would have to leave their jobs in near future.
- (c) whether Government propose to take up this matter with these countries; and
- (d) if so, in what manner and by when?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Postmen in Greater Mumbai

3026. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the total number of postmen in Greater Mumbai;
- (b) whether there is any plan to cut down the present strength of postmen of all the post offices in Mumbai; and
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Telephone exchanges in Chhattisgarh

3027. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number as well as the location of telephone exchanges set up in the various districts of Chhattisgarh during the period from the 1st January, 1998 to June, 2002;
- (b) the cost incurred on setting up of each exchange, separately;
- (c) the number of exchanges out of those set up upto the 30th June, 2002 which have started functioning togetherwith the capacity thereof, exchange-wise; and
- (d) the places in the above districts where exchanges would be set up during the next three years together with the capacity thereof?

Improvement in I.T. infrastructure

3028. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Information Technology industry is likely to make its presence felt significantly abroad in the coming years; and (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve Information Technology infrastructure in the country to facilitate the industry?

Outstanding dues

3029. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the outstanding dues towards Chhattisgarh Telephone Nigam Limited from consumers in Chhattisgarh and the details of the different categories of such consumers alongwith the number of persons belonging to each category; and
- (b) the decision Government propose to take to recover outstanding dues from the consumers irrespective of their category and take punitive action against those who do not pay the dues?

Changes in working of Post Offices

3030. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFOR-MATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of changes have been made in the working of Post Offices in the country;
- (b) if so, whether long delays in Indian Postal System would be made easier by Automatic Sorting Machine;
- (c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make the working of Post Offices more economically and quickly under the latest technology;
- (d) whether Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research is financing three-year project with a French Institute; and

(e) if so, to what extent these steps have improved the functioning of the post offices in the country?

Extension of MTNL services to Chennai

- 3031. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for extension of jurisdiction of MTNL upto Chennai, a well known commercial place in Southern India;
- (b) whether Government would come forward to execute the proposal of extension of MTNL:
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time frame for the extension of MTNL jurisdiction; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Telephone connections in Orissa

3032. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is inordinate delay in installing telephone connections in the State of Orissa;
- (b) whether in a case, registered with telephone authorities in the year 1992, a connection is yet to be given and on this case the High Court of Orissa has directed Government to pay compensation to the applicant for this inordinate delay;
- (c) if so, what is plaguing the system in the State?

Cheap mobile phones to consumers

- †3033. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited propose to provide very cheap WLL mobile phones to consumers; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Access to websites

- 3034. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have issued any order to enable a group of bureaucrats to decide the websites, Indian surfers are allowed to access:
- (b) whether it is a fact that the order provides sweeping powers to police the internet content; and
 - (c) if so, the details of the order?

BSNL's licence for Delhi and Mumbai

- 3035. SHRI NsANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. does not have a licence to operate in Delhi and Mumbai;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that new handset schemes and falling tariffs offered by the State owned BSNL are expected to boost rural telephony; and
- (d) if so, what is the response from the rural masses as on date?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

BSNL's cellular services in Jharkhand

- †3036. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the cellular services of BSNL are not satisfactory in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the frequency of BSNL is very low and its roaming system remains out of order;
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective measures being taken by Government to provide comparatively more reliable services to the subscribers?

New post offices in Maharashtra

- †3037. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of new Post Offices proposed to be opened in Maharashtra during the year 2003-04;
- (b) the number of new Post Offices proposed to be computerised for the abovesaid period; and
- (c) the details of Post Offices in the State, district-wise?

Posting of postman in Dakra, Ranchi

- †3038. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that only one postman is posted for the delivery of mail

- to lakhs of people and Central Educational Institutions at Coal Area Dakra (Ranchi);
- (b) whether delivery of mail by one Postman is impossible as a result of which mail is not delivered to the people;
- (c) if not, the post-wise details of persons posted there for mail delivery;
- (d) by when, more Postmen would be posted by Government there to deliver the mail: and
 - (e) if not, the justification thereto?

Indian Telephone Industries, Palghat

- 3039. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Telephone Industries, Palghat was a profiterning unit and in the recent years it has slipped into a sick unit incurring losses;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the ITI, Palghat Employees' Union has submitted a memorandum to him seeking quota reservation for the production of GSM, Simcards for BSNL; and
 - (d) if so, the action taken thereon?

Dropping of global long distance plan by BSNL & MTNL

- 3040. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether BSNL, MTNL and two other PSUs have dropped global long distance plan;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government are against the entry of BSNL, MTNL and two other PSUs in ILD venture; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Mobile services in Gujarat

3041. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in Gujarat where mobile service is available as on date;
- (b) the number of districts in the State where this service has not yet been started; and
- (c) by when, this service is likely to be provided in the Taluka Bariya District Dahod of the State during the year 2003-04?

Mobile services in U.P.

- 3042. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether BSNL's mobile service is avialable in all districts of U.P. in general and Sultanpur in particular;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its range in Kms. in Sultanpur;
- (c) the number of Simcards provided by Government to Sultanpur and how many cards were issued to customers;
- (d) whether Government are aware that simcards are given to VIPs/influential persons while general people are not being provided;

- (e) whether Government would intervene in the matter and instruct the authorities to give simcards to applicants on first come first serve basis; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Licence fee

3043. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the amount of licence fee offered by various bidders, circle-wise, who were technically and commercially declared eligible for the number of circles in December, 1995 and March, 1996 for the proposed licence fee particularly for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka circles?

Revenue licence sharing scheme

- 3044. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the revenue licence sharing scheme from licensee for various circles in the country was introduced and what has been the income to Government, circle-wise, from the date of introduction of the scheme and upto the 31st March, 1993; and
- (b) whether recovery has been affected from the licensee, if so, the reasons therefor?

Capacity of CellOne in Karnataka

- 3045. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the present capacity of CellOne in Karnataka;

- (b) how many subscribers, so far, opted for CellOne in the State;
- (c) the cities and town proposed to be covered during the year 2003-2004;
- (d) whether BSNL has come out with new options for its WLL consumers in Karnataka:
 - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) how many States and Central Government Organisation, so far, have opted for CellOne Mobile in the State?

Distribution of new telephone directory

3046. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has taken steps to distribute new telephone directory;
- (b) if so, by when, all the customers would be able to get the directory; and
 - (c) the steps taken in the matter?

Development of I.T. Sector

3047.PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Development of Information Technology has helped in any manner to provide wireless telephones in the villages of the country;
 - (b) if so, what is the status in this regard;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to provide new technology and to develop further telephones and other Information Technology related facilities in the villages;

- (d) the number of villages in Tamil Nadu where Government have come up what advanced facilities of I.T. during the current year: and
- (e) whether Government have laid down any criteria for selecting villages in this regard?

New telecom exchanges in Kerala

3048. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any proposal for setting up of new telecom exchanges in Kerala in near future; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Non-functioning of telephone connections

- 3049. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large number of telephone connections under telephone exchanges in Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi, remained nonfunctional during the months of July and August. 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor particularly in pocket C-13;
- (c) the steps taken by authority concerned to rectify the problem;
- (d) whether the computerised complain registering machine did not work properly there during this period, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether some problems also occurred during the same period last year,

if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Leave of EDDA staff

- 3050. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether EDDA staff in pursuance of Talwar Committee Report is entitled to some leave which lapses if not availed;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether EDDA staff, availing of such leave, has to make arrangement for his/her substitute during the leave period and some payment is made to the substitute:
- (d) whether this rule has been changed by the Superintendent, Bihar Sharif Postal Circle without issuing any formal order; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and what action Government propose to take in the matter?

Telecommunication network during the Tenth Five Year Plan period

- 3051. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any plan to expand telecommunication network in the country particularly in rural areas during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) if so, the details of amount to be spent thereon; and
- (c) the steps Government are taking in this regard?

Package for BSNL

- 3052. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are conducting a bail out package of more than Rs. 18,000 crore for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government are not considering an initial public offer (IPO) for BSNL on the lines of Maruti to raise money for restructuring instead of giving bail out package to BSNL?

Increase in capital investment in IT sector

†3053. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the capital investments in the IT industry sector have been consistently increasing over the years;
- (b) if so, the quantum of capital investments made in this industry during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and
- (c) the foreign capital investment made out of the said investments?

Workload of postmen

3054. DR. ABRAR AHMED: SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workload of postmen have been drastically reduced with the introduction of e-mail and FAX services;

[†] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) whether any survey has been done in this regard; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

VRS in MTNL

3055. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) has approved a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its 57,000 Group 'C' and D' employees; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Proxy labours in FCI

3056. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the various godowns of Food Corporation of India, proxy labours are used to lift the bags and they are paid meagre amount as wages whereas as per records the jobs are performed by regular labours who are getting paid anything between 2.5 to 4.5 lakhs per annum;
- (b) whether the proxy labour system is carried on with the convenience of Management of FCI; and
- (c) if so,what action has been taken by Government to stop such malpractices and bring the culprits to books?

Drought in States

†3057. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 724 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th May, 2002 and state whether any all party meeting has been convened by Government to study the drought situation in many States while plenty of foodgrains are available in the country and, if so, the outcome thereof?

Complaints over quality of foodgrains from States

3058. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: SHRI R.S. GAVAI: SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many States have complained about the poor quality of foodgrains supplied to them;
- (b) if so, the details of States that have complained in this regard in the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the main reason of poor quality foodgrains is the long periods of storage of foodgrains in various FCI godowns; and
- (d) if so, the remedy Government plan to initiate to correct this in the near future keeping buffer stocks in mind?

Non-disposal of consumers complaints

- †3059. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that consumer movement is getting slow due to non-

[†] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

disposal of complaints of the consumers whithn the fixed time in the country;

- (b) the total number of pending cases in the Consumer Courts of the country at present;
- (c) by when all these cases are likely to be disposed of; and
- (d) the maximum period of time fixed for disposal of Consumer Disputes?

Custom duty on imported palm oil

3060. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have reduced the Customs duty on imported refined palm oil;
- (b) if so, the present import duty on palm oil;
- (c) whether this reduction on customs duty has enhanced imports of edible oil into the country;
- (d) if so, the details of edible oil imports during the last three years, year-wise;
- (e) whether increase in the imports of edible oil adversely affect the indigenous products including coconut;
- (f) if so, whether adequate steps are taken to protect the interests of the forming community and indigenous industry in the country; and
 - (g) if so, details thereof?

Movement of wheat for export

3061. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the movement of wheat for export by road has been banned with effect from 1st August, 2003:
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that exporters have been persistently facing severe shortage of railway rakes for transporting foodgrains across the country, hampering speedy and timely delivery of export orders to their destinations; and
- (d) if so, the details of special initiatives taken to make railway rakes easily accessible to exporters for transportation of foodgrains?

Decline in procurement of foodgrains

3062. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the current season there is a decline in procurement of rice and other foodgrains;
 - (b) if so, the details of shortfall;
- (c) whether it is due to failure of monsoon in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Bihar; and
- (d) to what extent it would fall short of domestic consumption and whether this would necessitate imports to make up the shortfall?

Disposal of old foodgrains

- 3063. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the total quantity of wheat stock in FCI godowns, which is of the period 1998-99, State-wise and Depot-wise;
- (b) whether this wheat of 1998 and 1999 is edible; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to dispose off this wheat in order to ensure that it is sold before it begins to rot?

Amount spent on food subsidy

3064. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount spent as food subsidy for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the total amount spent on food subsidies for poor for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the details of the criteria adopted for the identification of families Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line?

Number of FCI godowns and foodgrains stored

- †3065. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of FCI godowns in the country alongwith the States where they are located at;

- (b) whether Government are aware of the details of the foodgrains and quantum thereof stored in these godowns;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government are considering to construct any new godown of FCI in the country; and
- (e) if so, the States where these godowns are proposed to be constructed alongwith the reasons therefor?

Request of Indian Sugar Mills Association

- †3066. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Sugar Mills Association has requested Government to intervene to save the distressed sugar industry;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the policy followed by Government in this matter?

Foodgrain for below poverty line people

- 3067. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the percentage of people living below the poverty line in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to eliminate poverty in the country;
- (c) whether, in view of so much surplus supplies of rice, foodgrains and sugar in the country there is any scheme to supply these items at nominal prices to people below the poverty line through public distribution system; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

[†] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Rice scandal in FCI

3068. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that FCI had sold a large quantity of good rice to certain exporters instead of selling the same in the domestic market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;
- (c) whether this scandal has recently come to Government's notice on account of stoppage of payment of those exporters;
- (d) whether Government have instituted any enquiry into this scandal;
 - (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Government have received any report; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be received?

Food schemes for the poor

3069. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Antyodaya Anna Yojana and all other schemes of providing foodgrains to poorest of the poor people;
- (b) the quantum of foodgrains released so far to Andhra Pradesh during the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 and the quantity of foodgrains to be given to each family per month under the various schemes, scheme-wise;
- (c) the criteria and guidelines to identify and certify the beneficiaries under these schemes; and
- (d) whether concerned Gram Panchayat Mandal and District Collectorate authorities

regularly monitor the distribution of foodgrains to poor families under various schemes, meant for them?

BPL families in Uttar Pradesh

- 3070. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had not properly identified the poor families living below the poverty line in U.P., particularly, in Mau and Azamgarh Districts of Uttar Pradesh:
- (b) the number of BPL families living in Mau and Azamgarh Districts as per the latest Government assessment:
- (c) whether Fair Price Shops in the above districts are not functioning well and quality of foodgrains supplied through PDS is of very poor quality; and
- (d) if so, what efforts Government propose to make for proper identification of BPL families in the above districts as well as for supply of quality foodgrains through PDS?

Working of Bureau of Indian Standard

- 3071. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have streamlined the working of Bureau of Indian Standard which was found to be lenient in enforcing standards in the case of bottled drinking water in March, 2003; and
 - (b) the details in this regard?

Baramura Power Project

- 3072. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Baramura Power Project in Tripura was to be commissioned for commercial generation by December, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether it has been commissioned:
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it would be commissioned; and
- (d) what would be the optimum capacity of this project?

Shares of Maruti Udyog Limited

- 3073. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether crores of shares of Maruti Udyog Limited were offloaded recently through the IPO route in the stock market;
- (b) if so, to whom the allotment has been given; and
- (c) the criteria followed in determining the floor price and the cut-off price of the shares of Maruti Udyog Ltd. and who has been allotted the maximum number of shares?

Disinvestment of Maruti Udyog Limited

- 3074. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether response to the first offer-IPO of Maruti Udyog Limited was overwhelming;

- (b) if so, the details of the terms of offer, the circumstances and reasons leading to the decision for offer and the extent to which the issue was oversubscribed and how far it was offered to general public investors and to institutional investors; and
- (c) how far this has led to disinvestments in respect of other profit making public sector undertakings and enterprises?

Shift in foreign policy towards 'Rainbow Cooperation'

- 3075. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the focus of Indian Foreign Policy would shift to Latin America and South Africa where a trilateral cooperation named the 'Rainbow Cooperation' is to be established; and
- (b) if so, the details of this new trilateral cooperation?

Confidence Building Measures by Pak President

3076. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan President, as a further Confidence Building Measures (CBM) towards resumption of dialogue with India, had offered in May this year to share intelligence with India to curb militancy; and
- (b) if so, what was the precise offer and Government's response thereto?

US help in field of atomic power generation

3077. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any breakthrough has been achieved or is expected in negotiations with the US regarding the removal of constraints on the export from US of high tech dual use technologies for expansion of our Nuclear Energy Programme; and
- (b) whether France has shown its willingness to enter into a cooperation agreement with India for peaceful uses of atomic energy e.g. in the field of power generation?

Passports pendency at RPO, Hyderabad

3078. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a vast backlog of passport applications in Hyderabad;
- (b) the number of applications presently pending with the RPO, Hyderabad;
- (c) whether it is a fact that passports are issued at a leisurely pace at Hyderabad;
- (d) whether any inspection has been done of the general atmosphere of the office; and
- (e) if so, the details of such an inspection report?

Proposed measures for foreigners entering USA

- 3079. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. Administration would make finger-printing and photographing mandatory for all visacarrying foreign visitors entering U.S.A. from January, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether India would also adopt similar measures in respect of foreign visitors on a reciprocal basis; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Al-Qaida network in Bangladesh

- 3080. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the newly emerging Al-Qaida network in Bangladesh; and
- (b) if so, the nature and extent of the new terrorist outfits, its *modus* operandi and the threat perception arising therefrom?

Terrorist training camps in Pakistan

- 3081. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware about the recruitment to terrorist training camps at Muridke in Pakistan has risen to record levels with an aim to fight Indian Security Forces in Jammu and Kashmir State;

- (b) whether Centre has lodged any protest with the Pakistan Government in this regard; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Visa free travel between India and Pakistan

- †3082. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any suggestions with regard to abolition of visa compulsion between India and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) whether Government would also consider the aspect of its misuse by terrorists while taking the decision in this regard?

Service charges in Gulf Embassies

- 3083. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any guidelines have been presented to levy service charges in Gulf Embassies for the registration of birth and issuance of certain certificates:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government are aware that there is widespread complaint that the service charge levied is exorbitant when compared to other neighbouring countries;
- (c) whether Government are in receipt of any representation from Government of Kerala to review the rate of service charge; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the action taken therein?

Payment of property tax by India in New York

- 3084. SHRI C.P. THIRUNA-VUKKARASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that New York city Government has filed suit against India for property tax default;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the foreign countries pay property and other taxes to Government of India or cities where they own the properties;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether they are exempted from payment of tax; if so, the reasons therefor?

Regional Passport Office Ahmedabad

3085. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Regional Passport Office at Ahmedabad, Gujarat is overburdened resulting in inordinate delay in issuing passports;
- (b) whether Government have received any demand to open Regional Passport Offices at Rajkot and Surat; and
- (c) the number of passports issued by Regional Passport Office at Ahmedabad during the last three years in Gujarat with a break up of the seven districts of Saurashtra area and a district of Kutch?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Bill against India in US Congress

3086. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Bill has been passed by US Congress imposing restriction on aid to India due to nonpayment of tax for a building in New York;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the action being taken by Government in the matter?

US support to India for permanent seat in Security Council

3087. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has taken up its demand of permanent seat in the UN Security Council at appropriate level;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the US stand in this regard and whether USA has offered India conditional support on this issue; and
- (d) what steps are being taken by India to firm up its claim?

Inter-Ministerial Committee to review passport issuance procedure

3088. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have constituted Inter-Ministerial Committee to review the system of issue of passports and simplifying it;
- (b) whether it has submitted its report; if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon:

- (c) whether registration of Adoption Deed is mandatory for the passport of an adopted child;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor along with the rule/provision in this regard;
- (e) whether the said Committee considered this provision; and
- (f) the details regarding applications received in May, 2003 in Delhi for passport of adopted minors, passport issued, representation received from non-issuance of passport till date and the action taken on such representations?

Contracts to Indian Companies in Iraq

3089. SHRI B.J. PANDA: MISS MABEL REBELLO: SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of contracts bagged by the Indian firms in the reconstruction process in Iraq either through Permanent Mission of India, New York or otherwise, if any, including the value of these contracts and the names of the companies; and
- (b) whether any office has also been set up in Iraq to help our companies to bag the work jobs, if so, the details thereof?

China's help to Pakistan

3090. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that China continues to extend huge financial grants and technology to Pakistan;
- (b) whether Government are aware that China is helping Pakistan to build a deep sea port at Gwadar which may be used by China for its Navy; and

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

Intrusion by Chinese Army

3091. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chinese army have intruded in Indian territory of Arunachal Pradesh especially when a high level Indian delegation was recently on visit to China;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what steps are being taken by Government to stop Chinese high handedness?

Bush praises Musharraf

3092. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether US President George Bush praised Parvez Musharraf during the latters's visit to the United States on his performance in respect of containing terrorism in the Indian Sub-continent; and
- (b) if so, Government's reaction to the said assessment of the situation by the United States?

Indo-US agreement on nonextradition

3093. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and USA have signed an agreement to prevent the extradition of Indian and American Nationals accused of human rights violations to third countries;

- (b) if so, whether this agreement is considered a significant steps as it secures for India an important ally in its argument upholding the sanctity of National Judicial Systems over multilateral ones like the International Criminal Court in Rome or the International Court of Justice in the Hague; and
- (c) if so, the other main features of the agreement?

Kolkata-Dhaka bus service

- 3094. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to start the Kolkata-Dhaka bus service soon as per the agreement between India and Bangladesh reached two years back;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what are the difficulties faced by both the sides for the delay in this venture?

Refund of social security payments

- 3095. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India has asked USA to refund social security payments;
- (b) if so, the response of US Government in this regard; and
- (c) the total amount of payments to be refunded?

Invitation to PDP leader to Session on Kashmir

3096. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Government plans to hold a session on

Kashmir and invited PDP leader Mehbooba to attend it:

- (b) whether they have chosen to ignore the Indian viewpoint at the same time explaining that it was a routine scenario, which is conducted regularly in the USA; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to ensure that it does not adversely affect our interests?

Chakma Hajong refugees

3097. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chakma Hajong refugees issue is a major bone of contention between India and Bangladesh;
- (b) the number of such refugees staying unauthorizedly in country's North-Eastern States; State-wise;
- (c) the number of refugees who have been accorded Indian citizenship;
- (d) whether any State Government has asked the Centre for their eviction from its State:
- (e) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Bangladesh Government; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Annual increase in unemployed persons

†3098. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the implementation of new economic policy in

- the country, there is a difference in the annual increase in unemployed persons in every State:
- (b) if so, the annual rate of increase in the employment in each State; and
- (c) the annual rate of increase in persons seeking employment in each State?

Construction of model ESI hospital at Asramam

- 3099. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the stage at which the development of model ESI hospital Asramam, Kollam, stands at present;
- (b) by when, the construction of the new speciality block would commence and what is the anticipated period by which it is likely to be completed;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to open ESI divisional office at Kollam; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Freed child labourers

- 3100. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of bonded children freed from their incarceration during the last three years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the freed children are back into bondage no sooner than they are released;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the prevailing laws in this regard are inadequate to

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

guarantee the rights of a child freed from bondage; and

(e) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to strengthen the laws to ensure that the rescued children are adequately provided for and trained until they reach adulthood?

Condition of bonded labourers

- 3101. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the condition of bonded labourers in the country has gone from bad to worse, if so, the steps proposed to tackle this problem;
 - (b) the States where this problem exist;
- (c) whether the States are not following the National Human Rights Commission's directives: and
- (d) the steps being taken for compliance of NHRC's directives in this regard?

Amendment in child labour laws

3102. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Human Rights Commission has impressed upon the Central Government to amend laws relating to child labour and set a time frame to achieve free and compulsory education for children in collaboration with the States; and
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Commission?

Employment exchanges

- †3103. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are some districts in the country where the employment exchanges are not functioning;
- (b) if so, the name of such districts, State-wise:
- (c) whether Government have set a target to open employment exchanges in all district Headquarters and the cities having population over one lakh; and
- (d) if so, by when, these employment exchanges would be opened?

Bonded girl labourers in A.P.

3104. MISS MABEL REBELLO: SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during a survey girls were found engaged as bonded labour in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether this illegal practice has been going on since long;
- (c) whether around 4,50,000 children in the age group of 6—14 years are employed in cotton seed fields in the country of which Andhra Pradesh alone account for 2,47,800; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government to free them from bonded labour and send them to schools under the new legislative provisions of free education?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Deposit of Employees Provident Fund

- 3105. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether provident fund of the employees of Punjab Wakf Board is not being deposited with the Provident Fund Commissioner;
- (b) if so, since when and what are the reasons therefor:
- (c) what action has been taken against those responsible for this State of affairs;
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to deposit the employees provident fund with the Provident Fund Commissioner?

Pending NCLP

- 3106. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the proposals sent by the State Government of Maharashtra under the Central Government's National Child Labour Project, are pending with the Ministry;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Employment exchanges in Chhattisgarh

- 3107. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of employment exchanges in Chhattisgarh and the number of candidates registered for employment opportunity in these exchanges;

- (b) the number of candidates still on the waiting list of job seekers in each employment exchange in the State, district-wise:
- (c) the rate of registration of new candidates every year; and
- (d) the details of ratio of job opportunities provided by each exchange to the registrants for the last three years, year-wise?

Utilisation of seats for trade apprentices in establishments

- 3108. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the percentage of utilisation of seats located for trade apprentices in establishments in Central and State sectors respectively;
- (b) what is the position in respect of seats located and utilised in graduate technician and technician (vocational apprentices) and physically handicapped in both Central and State establishments;
- (c) the steps taken both persuasive and legal to ensure full quota of apprenticeships in establishments and the number of erring establishments brought to book?

Insurance cover to migrant labourers

- 3109. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had proposed mandatory insurance cover to Indian migrant labourers even when it was opposed to by Ministry's own Finance Department;
- (b) if so, the nature of objections raised and the solution found out;
- (c) whether Government have recommended amendments in the

emigration act to check exploitation and provide social security to migrant labourers;

- (d) if so, the action taken thereon; and
- (e) whether it is proposed to send a delegation to countries where Indian labourers are employed and if so, the details thereof alongwith the expenditure to be incurred thereon?

I.L.O. Convention

- 3110. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India is a founder member of the International Labour Organisation (ILO);
- (b) if so, whether the competent authority ratified the Convention (No. 87) on Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organise and the Convention (No. 98) on Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the steps would be taken to curtail the provisions to dismiss Government employees through an Ordinance?

Job opportunities in hotel industry

- 3111. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that hotel industry offers great opportunities for job; and
- (b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to promote hotel management jobs on a larger scale?

Working condition of migrant labourers

- 3112. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided to send Indian officers to certain countries to study working condition of Indian migrant labourers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith likely expenditure to be incurred on the visit;
- (c) whether this can not be done through obtaining inputs from Indian Embassies and Emigration Agencies; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to check exploitation of Indian migrant labourers in foreign countries?

Setting up of National Commission for Employment Generation

- 3113. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is proposed to set up a National Commission for Employment Generation;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cases against defaulting employers

- 3114. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases initiated by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation against the defaulting employers under various provisions of law during the year 2002-2003;
- (b) the number of such cases pending as on the 31st March, 2003;
- (c) the cases which are more than three years old;

- (d) the reasons for delay in disposal thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by Government to expedite them?

Urology Unit at ESI Hospital, Indiranagar, Bangalore

- 3115. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal to start Urology Unit at ESI Hospital, Indiranagar Bangalore; and
 - (b) if so, the action taken thereon?

Creation of additional employment

- 3116. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) what are the various projects launched by Government to create additional employment during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) the target set under these projects/ schemes, State-wise;
- (c) whether any monitoring agency has been set up to review the problems of these projects; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Minimum wages for beedi workers

- †3117. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that rates of the minimum wages in respect of beedi workers vary State to State;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government are going to take to fix uniform rates of minimum wages in respect of beedi workers throughout the country?

Cell for upliftment of working women

- †3118. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any special cell has been set up for the upliftment in the conditions of female workers;
 - (b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;
- (c) whether this cell could improve upon the conditions of female workers; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Global survey report by ILO

- 3119. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the International Labour Organisation in a global survey report which was released in May, 2003 states that women constitute the single largest group discriminated against at work place with low wages, adverse working conditions, low rate of employment and greater insecurity, and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to end discrimination against women, provide equal opportunities at par with men and accord respectable position to them?

House building loan/assistance to beedi workers

- 3120. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any provision in the new housing policy to provide house

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

building loan to beedi workers from Employees Provident Fund;

- (b) if so, the details thereof showing the eligibility criteria and the rate of interest on house building loan;
- (c) whether Government are running or propose to start any scheme to provide assistance to beedi workers in house building;
- (d) if so, the details thereof showing the number of beedi workers benefited by the scheme, State-wise including the State of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Exodus of labourers

†3121. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a migration of labourers from one State to another:
- (b) if so, the estimated percentage of labourers migrating from each State
- (c) whether the reasons for such migration have also been examined; and
- (d) if so, the main reasons with regard to each State, for such migration?

Decline in productivity by labour

†3122. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's GDP is likely to suffer a loss to the tune of

- Rs. 1,00,000 crores annually due to poor productivity by the labourers;
- (b) if not, Government's estimate in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government had started any national level programme in recent days for boosting productivity and if so, the blue-print thereof?

Supreme court's direction on child labour

3123. DR. ABRAR AHMED: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Supreme Court's directon regarding the manner in which the children working in hazardous occupations, are to be withdrawn from work and rehabilitated, are strictly followed by all the State Governments;
- (b) whether Government monitor the action taken by the State Governments in this regard; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to workers abroad

3124. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the nature of assistance provided to Indian workers in foreign countries once they are in distress; and
- (b) the help provided to such workers during the last two years, year-wise?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Closure of mills in Kanpur

- †3125. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to
- (a) whether Government are aware that many families have committed suicide en masse as a result of closure of mills in Kanpur city and if so, the number of labourers committed suicide;
- (b) whether Government are contemplating any measures to protect the labourers who are compelled to commit suicide as a result of helplessness; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Unemployment problem in J and K

- 3126. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal for resolving the unemployment problem in Jammu and Kashmir during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the areas which would provide these jobs;
- (d) whether any time frame has been set to create/generate the jobs; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Child labour

- 3127. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of child labourers in the country as on the 30th June, 2003, Statewise;
- (b) whether Government have any proposal to constitute the National

Commission on Child in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

pleased to state:

†3128. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be

Poverty line

- (a) the definition of the poverty line;
- (b) the population which is below poverty line, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to bring them above the poverty line?

Border Area Development Projects in Manipur

- 3129. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the Border Area Development Projects (BADP) taken up during the Ninth Five Year Plan period in Manipur;
- (b) whether provision of schemes under BADP for Manipur are commensurate to the extent of its border areas with Myanmar; and
- (c) the agency for implementation of BADP and agency to see proper implementation of the schemes?

Losses to coal bearing States

- 3130. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Planning Commission has conducted any study on the losses to Coal bearing States in respect of royalty and other matters;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether findings of the report have been made public;
- (d) whether corrective measures have been initiated on the findings; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Jatropha plantation

3131. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has submitted any proposal to Government to launch a Nation-wide Jatropha plantation with a view to generate Biofuels to tap Non-Conventional Sources of Energy in the Country; and
 - (b) if so, the details of the proposal?

Impact assessment of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3132. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Planning Commission and outside professional agencies have decided to undertake impact assessment of the centrally sponsored schemes for which evaluation has not yet been undertaken;
- (b) if so, whether this would help Government in deciding whether the schemes should be continued or weeded out;
- (c) whether this decision of Government would help to ensure that the

performance of Centrally Sponsored Schemes get evaluated;

- (d) if so, by when the findings of the evaluation would be completed;
- (e) whether all the Central schemes upto Ninth Plan would be considered; and
- (f) if so, by when a final assessment would be made?

Loan from open market by Orissa

3133. SHRI B.J. PANDA: MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Centre fix limits within which a State can float a loan from the open market;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such a limit has been fixed for the State of Orissa;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that Orissa has lifted Rs. 3.39 billion from the open market, a first loan in the current fiscal year; and
- (f) whether the State can go ahead to float such loan upto 10 billion in the current fiscal year?

People below poverty line

- †3134. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether 28 per cent people in India are living below the poverty line;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the number of the people living above the poverty line in Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh is more

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in comparison to the National Level and whether Government have any plan to bring down the said level; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Upliftment of women above poverty line

- †3135. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent of the total population living below poverty line are women;
- (b) if so, the action plan contemplated by Government to uplift the women above poverty line; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Additional Central Assistance to Andhra Pradesh

- 3136. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have provided Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to Andhra Pradesh for specified projects in addition to the funds provided under Annual Plans of the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and project-wise; and
- (c) what is the present status of each of these projects in the State?

Identification of BPL people in States

- 3137. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a dispute between almost all the States and

Planning Commission so far as the number of people living below the Poverty line in such States;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for huge gaps in the findings of States and Planning Commission; and
- (c) what action Government propose to take to resolve the issue between States and Planning Commission?

Financial package to States facing financial crises

3138. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the States that have sought financial package from the Centre to meet the present financial crises; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Border Area Development Fund for R.S. Pura

- 3139. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether funds for Border Area Development are sanctioned regularly particularly regions like R.S. Pura;
 - (b) if not, the reason thereof;
- (c) if so, the funds sanctioned during the last five years; and
- (d) in what manner these funds have been utilised?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Amount allocated to Jammu and Kashmir for roads

- 3140. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount allocated to Jammu and Kashmir for original and maintenance works on Highways during the last three years;
- (b) whether the amount allocated has been utilised as per schedule;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Andaman Trunk Road

- 3141. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court ruled in 2002 that the portion of the Andaman Trunk Road passing through Jarawa Reserve in Andaman Island shall be closed:
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Shekhar Singh Committee had earlier recommended steps to protect bio-diversity of the Island;
- (c) whether it has been implemented; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Road projects under CRF in Uttar Pradesh

- †3142. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of projects started under Central Road Fund in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;
- (b) the number of projects completed so far;

- (c) the present position of the other projects; and
- (d) the other projects of Uttar Pradesh financed under the Central Road Fund?

Damage to NH-52 and NH-37 by flood

- 3143. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1018 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 2002 and state:
- (a) the details of the damage caused by flood during 2002 and till July 2003 to NH-52 and NH-37;
- (b) the details of the damage repaired and proposed to be repaired to attain at least 60 kmh speed from the present average speed of 30 kmh;
- (c) the total allocations made towards replacement of wooden bridge, strengthening and widening of National Highways and target fixed for such improvement, year-wise and sector-wise during Tenth Plan period;
- (d) whether the flood damages are compensated from other sources of funding; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Transportation facilities in Northern States

- 3144. DR. A.R. KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether to facilitate the transportation of goods from the landlocked Northern States to the major ports of the country, Government have laid down schemes to improve road connectivity to ten ports in the country;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the concrete steps considered in this regard;
- (c) by what time these projects are likely to be completed;
- (d) whether the original plan to complete these projects was December, 2003; and
- (e) if so, to what extent it would be achieved?

Mumbai-Pune Expressway

- 3145. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for the reimbursement of the Central Government's share of the cost of Mumbai-Pune Expressway since it is a part of the Golden Quadrilateral Project;
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto; and
- (c) by when Government would make payment as reimbursement to the Maharashtra Government?

Introduction of tamper proof number plates

- 3146. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to introduce tamper proof number plates for new vehicles as well as the existing ones;
- (b) if so, whether the estimated cost to introduce the new tamper proof number plates has been assessed;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) on what grounds the new system of number plates is being introduced?

Introduction of new number plates

- 3147. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any cost benefit analysis of introducing the new system of number plates has been made;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in many advanced countries such a new number plate system have not been introduced;
- (d) what is the necessity to introduce the new number plates in the country; and
- (e) whether any comprehensive study in the matter have been conducted and if not, whether Government propose to commission a study and put up the report before the Parliament before taking any further step?

Assistance to Chhattisgarh for roads

- 3148. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have provided any assistance to Chhattisgarh for construction, repair and maintenance of roads;
- (b) the quantum of assistance provided for the last one year;
- (c) the details of the proposals submitted by the State Government for that period; and
- (d) the number of projects completed as against those approved by the Central Government in the State Government's proposal?

Improvement of National Highways in Kerala

- 3149. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the proposals received from the State Government of Kerala for improvement of National Highways in the State:
- (b) whether necessary approvals have been granted to the proposals; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount sanctioned to each of the projects?

National highways in Uttar Pradesh

- †3150. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of National Highways in the country;
- (b) whether Government are aware of the percentage of the total National Highways which exists in the State of Uttar Pradesh alone: and
 - (c) the details thereof?

Opposition of NGOs regarding road projects

- 3151. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the East-West corridor in the Golden Quadrilateral is being opposed by several Non-Governmental Organisations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps proposed to meet the objections raised?

Damage of NH-31 and NH-52 by recent flood

- 3152. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether several portions of the NH-31 and NH-52 have been badly damaged by recent flood in Assam;
- (b) if so, whether the damage is likely to be assessed; and
- (c) what measures would be taken to rebuild these highways after proper assessment?

Conversion of petrol cars to CNG ones

- 3153. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have imposed any ban on the conversion of private old car driven on petrol to C.N.G.;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to revoke the ban; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Private sector response to mega road projects

3154. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

- Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether mega road projects draw huge response of private sector;
- (b) if so, what are the total number of private sector that have been permitted to complete the road projects under Golden Quadrilateral Scheme;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) whether the completion of the road projects under the above scheme would be completed in time;
- (d) if so, to what extent delay has been reduced in these projects;
- (e) whether number of issues like incentives for allowing operators to retain the toll money and 30 per cent equity in both projects have also helped accelerate the entire programme; and
- (f) what is the latest position of these projects?

National Highways of Tamil Nadu

- 3155. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways of Tamil Nadu are also covered under the Golden Quardrilateral Project and North-South, East-West corridors;
- (b) if so, the present status of the project in Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) by when, the project is likely to be completed?

Four-lane roads in the country

- 3156. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details on the existing four-lane road length in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details regarding the on-going four-laning projects;
- (c) the number of four-laning projects that are under examination and considered for approval of Government, at present; and
 - (d) the details thereof, State-wise;

Loss due to poor road condition

†3157. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per an estimate a loss of Rs. 20,000 to 30,000 crores per year is being suffered due to poor condition of roads in the country;
- (b) if not, the estimate of Government in this regard;
- (c) whether there is any possibility to put an end to these losses; and
 - (d) if so, by when it would be done?

Construction of Golden Quadrilateral

†3158. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that construction works of 'Golden Quadrilateral' highway meant to link four metros has been delayed due to non-cooperation by State Government; and
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard alongwith the names of the States together with the areas wherein States have failed to co-operate appropriately?

Products manufactured by SSIs

3159. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of products that are manufactured by SSI in the country;
- (b) the target set for export of SSI products for the years 2003-04; and
- (c) the details of exports made during the last five years; year-wise?

Comprehensive law for SSIs

3160. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to bring forward a comprehensive law on Small Scale Industries on the line of Companies Act; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Satellite tests

- †3161. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government are thinking

over any programme for conducting more satellite tests in the Space in view of successful test of G.S.L.V. by the Indian scientists recently; and

(b) if so, the expected success for attaining the self sufficiency in Space programme?

Air Navigation over the Indian Air Space

3162. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ISRO, in co-ordination with AAI, is working to build Air Navigation over the Indian Air Space;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for technology demonstration; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi; The 14th August, 2003 Sravana 23, 1925 (Saka) YOGENDRA NARAIN, Secretary-General.

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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RAJYA SABHA

List of Ouestions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Thursday, the August 21, 2003/Srayana 30, 1925 (Saka)

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Communications and Information Technology; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Development of North Eastern Region; Disinvestment; External Affairs; Labour; Planning; Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Total number of questions—155

Strength of CBI

3008. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total officer strength of the CBI as on 1st April, 2003;
- (b) the total strength of supporting staff;
- (c) the number of cases under investigation as on 1st April, 2002;
- (d) the number of additional cases taken up during the year 2002-03;
- (e) the number of cases dropped during the year 2002-03;
- (f) the number of cases on trial as on 1st April, 2003;
- (g) the number of cases decided during the year 2002-03; and
- (h) the number of fresh cases pushed for trial during the year?

Educated unemployed youth in Assam

- 3009. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of the educated unemployed youth in the State of Assam

who applied for loan under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana for setting up their own industrial units/business since the year 1999-2000, till date;

- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) the number of applications pending for approval; and
- (d) the reasons for the delay and the steps taken by Government or proposed to be taken for their speedy disposal?

Sanction of loans under PMRY

- 3010. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) that have been recommended for sanction of loan by the Central Government in the year 2002-03, State-wise;
- (b) how many of these have been processed by the banks, State-wise;
- (c) in how many of these cases loans have been provided in full in practice; and
- (d) the reasons why these figures differ between the number sanctioned and the number actually disbursed?

Decline in growth of cottage industries

- 3011. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a decline in the growth of cottage industries in our country;
- (b) if so, whether Government have analysed the factors for such decline in cottage industries;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to boost cottage industries specifically in remote villages to provide more employment opportunities; and
- (d) the funds allocated for the development and establishment of cottage industries during the Tenth Plan period, State-wise?

Agro-based foreign industries

- †3012. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of agro-based foreign industries in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the proposals received for setting up of agro-based industries during the last three years, Statewise:
- (c) the details of proposals approved till date, State-wise; and
- (d) the measures being taken to explore possibilities of new areas in agro-based industries?

Special Component Plan of KVIC

- †3013. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the norms for selection of various districts by Khadi and Village Industries Commission under its Special Component Plan; and
- (b) the names of the districts selected under the plan particularly in the State of Jharkhand?

Rural employment in Karnataka

- 3014. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to implement programme for creating rural employment in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the achievements made in the State under this programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan period alongwith the amount spent; and
- (c) the arrangement made during the Tenth Five Year Plan period for this State?

Setting up of agro-based

†3015. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have formulated any action plan to promote setting up of agro-based industries in the rural areas of different States;
- (b) if so, the outline thereof and since when it has been initiated;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) whether Government have allotted any fixed amount to each State under the same scheme; and
- (d) if so, the said amounts for the year 2003-04?

Rural industries in Uttaranchal

- †3016. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of persons engaged in rural industries based on agriculture in Uttaranchal:
- (b) the details of steps being taken to promote the agriculture based industries in the State:
- (c) whether the State Government have requested for any financial package to improve the conditions of the rural industries of the State; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Violation of human rights

- 3017. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether cases of violation of human rights by the authorities of Department of Atomic Energy have come to the notice of Government;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard stating the number of cases reported during the last three years; and
 - (c) the action taken thereon?

Low power Atomic Reactor in Andhra University Campus

- 3018. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the present position of setting up of proposed low power Atomic Reactor in the Andhra University Campus in Visakhapatnam;

- (b) by when, the research at the Centre would start and be able to supply radioisotopes to hospitals in the region for diagnosis and treatment of cancer; and
 - (c) the details in this regard?

Setting up of Beryllium plant in Mumbai

- 3019. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a few years back a Beryllium plant was set up at Vasi Complex, New Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether any study was conducted so as to ascertain the viability of the plant;
 - (c) if so, the details in this regard;
 - (d) the present status of the said plant;
- (e) whether Government propose to shut down the said plant being non-viable;
 - (f) if so, by when; and
 - (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Deteriorating Telecommunication system

- †3020. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that due to rapid increase of mobile phone, the telecommunication system is deteriorating;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the main reasons behind it is that telephones remain out of order for a long period and these are not repaired;
- (c) if so, the action being taken by Government to repair the faulty telephones and telephone lines and to fix responsibility on the Department; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Upgradation of rural telephone exchanges

- 3021. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that rural phones are almost non-functional with no dial tone, no speech and sudden snag; and
- (b) the action proposed to upgrade rural telephone exchanges to counter the threat of surrender of connections by villagers in favour of mobile phones?

Use of mobile phones

- †3022. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the domestic telephone tariff is higher than that of mobile phones;
- (b) if so, the percentage thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the percentage of the people using mobile services; and
 - (d) the details thereof?

BSNL's free run in GSM and WLL

- 3023. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been given a free run in the GSM and WLL space and has been allowed to offer services like free national roaming to its customers;
- (b) if so, the reasons for cash bail out package being considered by Government for BSNL;

- (c) whether this package would allow BSNL to alter its cost structures by writing off both historical and present operational costs; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Manufacture of personal computers

- 3024. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of personal computers manufactured in the country during the last five years, year-wise; and
- (b) what is the number of personal computers imported into the country during the last five years, yearwise?

Threat to I.T. professionals abroad

3025. SHRI LALU PRASAD: SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian IT professionals working in various European Countries are being threatened by the contemplated changes in immigration laws of these countries:
- (b) whether there is a possibility that a large number of these professionals would have to leave their jobs in near future.
- (c) whether Government propose to take up this matter with these countries; and
- (d) if so, in what manner and by when?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Postmen in Greater Mumbai

3026. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the total number of postmen in Greater Mumbai;
- (b) whether there is any plan to cut down the present strength of postmen of all the post offices in Mumbai; and
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Telephone exchanges in Chhattisgarh

3027. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number as well as the location of telephone exchanges set up in the various districts of Chhattisgarh during the period from the 1st January, 1998 to June, 2002;
- (b) the cost incurred on setting up of each exchange, separately;
- (c) the number of exchanges out of those set up upto the 30th June, 2002 which have started functioning togetherwith the capacity thereof, exchange-wise; and
- (d) the places in the above districts where exchanges would be set up during the next three years together with the capacity thereof?

Improvement in I.T. infrastructure

3028. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Information Technology industry is likely to make its presence felt significantly abroad in the coming years; and (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve Information Technology infrastructure in the country to facilitate the industry?

Outstanding dues

3029. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the outstanding dues towards Chhattisgarh Telephone Nigam Limited from consumers in Chhattisgarh and the details of the different categories of such consumers alongwith the number of persons belonging to each category; and
- (b) the decision Government propose to take to recover outstanding dues from the consumers irrespective of their category and take punitive action against those who do not pay the dues?

Changes in working of Post Offices

3030. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFOR-MATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of changes have been made in the working of Post Offices in the country;
- (b) if so, whether long delays in Indian Postal System would be made easier by Automatic Sorting Machine;
- (c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make the working of Post Offices more economically and quickly under the latest technology;
- (d) whether Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research is financing three-year project with a French Institute; and

(e) if so, to what extent these steps have improved the functioning of the post offices in the country?

Extension of MTNL services to Chennai

- 3031. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for extension of jurisdiction of MTNL upto Chennai, a well known commercial place in Southern India;
- (b) whether Government would come forward to execute the proposal of extension of MTNL:
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time frame for the extension of MTNL jurisdiction; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Telephone connections in Orissa

3032. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is inordinate delay in installing telephone connections in the State of Orissa;
- (b) whether in a case, registered with telephone authorities in the year 1992, a connection is yet to be given and on this case the High Court of Orissa has directed Government to pay compensation to the applicant for this inordinate delay;
- (c) if so, what is plaguing the system in the State?

Cheap mobile phones to consumers

- †3033. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited propose to provide very cheap WLL mobile phones to consumers; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Access to websites

- 3034. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have issued any order to enable a group of bureaucrats to decide the websites, Indian surfers are allowed to access:
- (b) whether it is a fact that the order provides sweeping powers to police the internet content; and
 - (c) if so, the details of the order?

BSNL's licence for Delhi and Mumbai

- 3035. SHRI NsANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. does not have a licence to operate in Delhi and Mumbai;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that new handset schemes and falling tariffs offered by the State owned BSNL are expected to boost rural telephony; and
- (d) if so, what is the response from the rural masses as on date?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

BSNL's cellular services in Jharkhand

- †3036. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the cellular services of BSNL are not satisfactory in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the frequency of BSNL is very low and its roaming system remains out of order;
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective measures being taken by Government to provide comparatively more reliable services to the subscribers?

New post offices in Maharashtra

- †3037. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of new Post Offices proposed to be opened in Maharashtra during the year 2003-04;
- (b) the number of new Post Offices proposed to be computerised for the abovesaid period; and
- (c) the details of Post Offices in the State, district-wise?

Posting of postman in Dakra, Ranchi

- †3038. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that only one postman is posted for the delivery of mail

- to lakhs of people and Central Educational Institutions at Coal Area Dakra (Ranchi);
- (b) whether delivery of mail by one Postman is impossible as a result of which mail is not delivered to the people;
- (c) if not, the post-wise details of persons posted there for mail delivery;
- (d) by when, more Postmen would be posted by Government there to deliver the mail: and
 - (e) if not, the justification thereto?

Indian Telephone Industries, Palghat

- 3039. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Telephone Industries, Palghat was a profiterning unit and in the recent years it has slipped into a sick unit incurring losses;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the ITI, Palghat Employees' Union has submitted a memorandum to him seeking quota reservation for the production of GSM, Simcards for BSNL; and
 - (d) if so, the action taken thereon?

Dropping of global long distance plan by BSNL & MTNL

- 3040. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether BSNL, MTNL and two other PSUs have dropped global long distance plan;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government are against the entry of BSNL, MTNL and two other PSUs in ILD venture; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Mobile services in Gujarat

3041. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in Gujarat where mobile service is available as on date;
- (b) the number of districts in the State where this service has not yet been started; and
- (c) by when, this service is likely to be provided in the Taluka Bariya District Dahod of the State during the year 2003-04?

Mobile services in U.P.

- 3042. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether BSNL's mobile service is avialable in all districts of U.P. in general and Sultanpur in particular;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its range in Kms. in Sultanpur;
- (c) the number of Simcards provided by Government to Sultanpur and how many cards were issued to customers;
- (d) whether Government are aware that simcards are given to VIPs/influential persons while general people are not being provided;

- (e) whether Government would intervene in the matter and instruct the authorities to give simcards to applicants on first come first serve basis; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Licence fee

3043. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the amount of licence fee offered by various bidders, circle-wise, who were technically and commercially declared eligible for the number of circles in December, 1995 and March, 1996 for the proposed licence fee particularly for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka circles?

Revenue licence sharing scheme

- 3044. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the revenue licence sharing scheme from licensee for various circles in the country was introduced and what has been the income to Government, circle-wise, from the date of introduction of the scheme and upto the 31st March, 1993; and
- (b) whether recovery has been affected from the licensee, if so, the reasons therefor?

Capacity of CellOne in Karnataka

- 3045. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the present capacity of CellOne in Karnataka;

- (b) how many subscribers, so far, opted for CellOne in the State;
- (c) the cities and town proposed to be covered during the year 2003-2004;
- (d) whether BSNL has come out with new options for its WLL consumers in Karnataka:
 - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) how many States and Central Government Organisation, so far, have opted for CellOne Mobile in the State?

Distribution of new telephone directory

3046. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has taken steps to distribute new telephone directory;
- (b) if so, by when, all the customers would be able to get the directory; and
 - (c) the steps taken in the matter?

Development of I.T. Sector

3047.PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Development of Information Technology has helped in any manner to provide wireless telephones in the villages of the country;
 - (b) if so, what is the status in this regard;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to provide new technology and to develop further telephones and other Information Technology related facilities in the villages;

- (d) the number of villages in Tamil Nadu where Government have come up what advanced facilities of I.T. during the current year: and
- (e) whether Government have laid down any criteria for selecting villages in this regard?

New telecom exchanges in Kerala

3048. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any proposal for setting up of new telecom exchanges in Kerala in near future; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Non-functioning of telephone connections

- 3049. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large number of telephone connections under telephone exchanges in Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi, remained nonfunctional during the months of July and August. 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor particularly in pocket C-13;
- (c) the steps taken by authority concerned to rectify the problem;
- (d) whether the computerised complain registering machine did not work properly there during this period, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether some problems also occurred during the same period last year,

if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Leave of EDDA staff

- 3050. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether EDDA staff in pursuance of Talwar Committee Report is entitled to some leave which lapses if not availed;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether EDDA staff, availing of such leave, has to make arrangement for his/her substitute during the leave period and some payment is made to the substitute:
- (d) whether this rule has been changed by the Superintendent, Bihar Sharif Postal Circle without issuing any formal order; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and what action Government propose to take in the matter?

Telecommunication network during the Tenth Five Year Plan period

- 3051. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any plan to expand telecommunication network in the country particularly in rural areas during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) if so, the details of amount to be spent thereon; and
- (c) the steps Government are taking in this regard?

Package for BSNL

- 3052. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are conducting a bail out package of more than Rs. 18,000 crore for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government are not considering an initial public offer (IPO) for BSNL on the lines of Maruti to raise money for restructuring instead of giving bail out package to BSNL?

Increase in capital investment in IT sector

†3053. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of COMM-UNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the capital investments in the IT industry sector have been consistently increasing over the years;
- (b) if so, the quantum of capital investments made in this industry during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and
- (c) the foreign capital investment made out of the said investments?

Workload of postmen

3054. DR. ABRAR AHMED: SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workload of postmen have been drastically reduced with the introduction of e-mail and FAX services;

[†] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) whether any survey has been done in this regard; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

VRS in MTNL

3055. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) has approved a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its 57,000 Group 'C' and D' employees; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Proxy labours in FCI

3056. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the various godowns of Food Corporation of India, proxy labours are used to lift the bags and they are paid meagre amount as wages whereas as per records the jobs are performed by regular labours who are getting paid anything between 2.5 to 4.5 lakhs per annum;
- (b) whether the proxy labour system is carried on with the convenience of Management of FCI; and
- (c) if so,what action has been taken by Government to stop such malpractices and bring the culprits to books?

Drought in States

†3057. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 724 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th May, 2002 and state whether any all party meeting has been convened by Government to study the drought situation in many States while plenty of foodgrains are available in the country and, if so, the outcome thereof?

Complaints over quality of foodgrains from States

3058. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: SHRI R.S. GAVAI: SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many States have complained about the poor quality of foodgrains supplied to them;
- (b) if so, the details of States that have complained in this regard in the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the main reason of poor quality foodgrains is the long periods of storage of foodgrains in various FCI godowns; and
- (d) if so, the remedy Government plan to initiate to correct this in the near future keeping buffer stocks in mind?

Non-disposal of consumers complaints

- †3059. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that consumer movement is getting slow due to non-

[†] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

disposal of complaints of the consumers whithn the fixed time in the country;

- (b) the total number of pending cases in the Consumer Courts of the country at present;
- (c) by when all these cases are likely to be disposed of; and
- (d) the maximum period of time fixed for disposal of Consumer Disputes?

Custom duty on imported palm oil

3060. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have reduced the Customs duty on imported refined palm oil;
- (b) if so, the present import duty on palm oil;
- (c) whether this reduction on customs duty has enhanced imports of edible oil into the country;
- (d) if so, the details of edible oil imports during the last three years, year-wise;
- (e) whether increase in the imports of edible oil adversely affect the indigenous products including coconut;
- (f) if so, whether adequate steps are taken to protect the interests of the forming community and indigenous industry in the country; and
 - (g) if so, details thereof?

Movement of wheat for export

3061. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the movement of wheat for export by road has been banned with effect from 1st August, 2003:
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that exporters have been persistently facing severe shortage of railway rakes for transporting foodgrains across the country, hampering speedy and timely delivery of export orders to their destinations; and
- (d) if so, the details of special initiatives taken to make railway rakes easily accessible to exporters for transportation of foodgrains?

Decline in procurement of foodgrains

3062. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the current season there is a decline in procurement of rice and other foodgrains;
 - (b) if so, the details of shortfall;
- (c) whether it is due to failure of monsoon in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Bihar; and
- (d) to what extent it would fall short of domestic consumption and whether this would necessitate imports to make up the shortfall?

Disposal of old foodgrains

- 3063. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the total quantity of wheat stock in FCI godowns, which is of the period 1998-99, State-wise and Depot-wise;
- (b) whether this wheat of 1998 and 1999 is edible; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to dispose off this wheat in order to ensure that it is sold before it begins to rot?

Amount spent on food subsidy

3064. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount spent as food subsidy for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the total amount spent on food subsidies for poor for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the details of the criteria adopted for the identification of families Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line?

Number of FCI godowns and foodgrains stored

- †3065. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of FCI godowns in the country alongwith the States where they are located at;

- (b) whether Government are aware of the details of the foodgrains and quantum thereof stored in these godowns;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government are considering to construct any new godown of FCI in the country; and
- (e) if so, the States where these godowns are proposed to be constructed alongwith the reasons therefor?

Request of Indian Sugar Mills Association

- †3066. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Sugar Mills Association has requested Government to intervene to save the distressed sugar industry;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the policy followed by Government in this matter?

Foodgrain for below poverty line people

- 3067. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the percentage of people living below the poverty line in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to eliminate poverty in the country;
- (c) whether, in view of so much surplus supplies of rice, foodgrains and sugar in the country there is any scheme to supply these items at nominal prices to people below the poverty line through public distribution system; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

[†] Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Rice scandal in FCI

3068. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that FCI had sold a large quantity of good rice to certain exporters instead of selling the same in the domestic market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;
- (c) whether this scandal has recently come to Government's notice on account of stoppage of payment of those exporters;
- (d) whether Government have instituted any enquiry into this scandal;
 - (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Government have received any report; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be received?

Food schemes for the poor

3069. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Antyodaya Anna Yojana and all other schemes of providing foodgrains to poorest of the poor people;
- (b) the quantum of foodgrains released so far to Andhra Pradesh during the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 and the quantity of foodgrains to be given to each family per month under the various schemes, scheme-wise;
- (c) the criteria and guidelines to identify and certify the beneficiaries under these schemes; and
- (d) whether concerned Gram Panchayat Mandal and District Collectorate authorities

regularly monitor the distribution of foodgrains to poor families under various schemes, meant for them?

BPL families in Uttar Pradesh

- 3070. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had not properly identified the poor families living below the poverty line in U.P., particularly, in Mau and Azamgarh Districts of Uttar Pradesh:
- (b) the number of BPL families living in Mau and Azamgarh Districts as per the latest Government assessment:
- (c) whether Fair Price Shops in the above districts are not functioning well and quality of foodgrains supplied through PDS is of very poor quality; and
- (d) if so, what efforts Government propose to make for proper identification of BPL families in the above districts as well as for supply of quality foodgrains through PDS?

Working of Bureau of Indian Standard

- 3071. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have streamlined the working of Bureau of Indian Standard which was found to be lenient in enforcing standards in the case of bottled drinking water in March, 2003; and
 - (b) the details in this regard?

Baramura Power Project

- 3072. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Baramura Power Project in Tripura was to be commissioned for commercial generation by December, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether it has been commissioned:
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it would be commissioned; and
- (d) what would be the optimum capacity of this project?

Shares of Maruti Udyog Limited

- 3073. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether crores of shares of Maruti Udyog Limited were offloaded recently through the IPO route in the stock market;
- (b) if so, to whom the allotment has been given; and
- (c) the criteria followed in determining the floor price and the cut-off price of the shares of Maruti Udyog Ltd. and who has been allotted the maximum number of shares?

Disinvestment of Maruti Udyog Limited

- 3074. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether response to the first offer-IPO of Maruti Udyog Limited was overwhelming;

- (b) if so, the details of the terms of offer, the circumstances and reasons leading to the decision for offer and the extent to which the issue was oversubscribed and how far it was offered to general public investors and to institutional investors; and
- (c) how far this has led to disinvestments in respect of other profit making public sector undertakings and enterprises?

Shift in foreign policy towards 'Rainbow Cooperation'

- 3075. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the focus of Indian Foreign Policy would shift to Latin America and South Africa where a trilateral cooperation named the 'Rainbow Cooperation' is to be established; and
- (b) if so, the details of this new trilateral cooperation?

Confidence Building Measures by Pak President

3076. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan President, as a further Confidence Building Measures (CBM) towards resumption of dialogue with India, had offered in May this year to share intelligence with India to curb militancy; and
- (b) if so, what was the precise offer and Government's response thereto?

US help in field of atomic power generation

3077. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any breakthrough has been achieved or is expected in negotiations with the US regarding the removal of constraints on the export from US of high tech dual use technologies for expansion of our Nuclear Energy Programme; and
- (b) whether France has shown its willingness to enter into a cooperation agreement with India for peaceful uses of atomic energy e.g. in the field of power generation?

Passports pendency at RPO, Hyderabad

3078. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a vast backlog of passport applications in Hyderabad;
- (b) the number of applications presently pending with the RPO, Hyderabad;
- (c) whether it is a fact that passports are issued at a leisurely pace at Hyderabad;
- (d) whether any inspection has been done of the general atmosphere of the office; and
- (e) if so, the details of such an inspection report?

Proposed measures for foreigners entering USA

- 3079. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. Administration would make finger-printing and photographing mandatory for all visacarrying foreign visitors entering U.S.A. from January, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether India would also adopt similar measures in respect of foreign visitors on a reciprocal basis; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Al-Qaida network in Bangladesh

- 3080. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the newly emerging Al-Qaida network in Bangladesh; and
- (b) if so, the nature and extent of the new terrorist outfits, its *modus* operandi and the threat perception arising therefrom?

Terrorist training camps in Pakistan

- 3081. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware about the recruitment to terrorist training camps at Muridke in Pakistan has risen to record levels with an aim to fight Indian Security Forces in Jammu and Kashmir State;

- (b) whether Centre has lodged any protest with the Pakistan Government in this regard; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Visa free travel between India and Pakistan

- †3082. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have received any suggestions with regard to abolition of visa compulsion between India and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) whether Government would also consider the aspect of its misuse by terrorists while taking the decision in this regard?

Service charges in Gulf Embassies

- 3083. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any guidelines have been presented to levy service charges in Gulf Embassies for the registration of birth and issuance of certain certificates:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government are aware that there is widespread complaint that the service charge levied is exorbitant when compared to other neighbouring countries;
- (c) whether Government are in receipt of any representation from Government of Kerala to review the rate of service charge; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the action taken therein?

Payment of property tax by India in New York

- 3084. SHRI C.P. THIRUNA-VUKKARASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that New York city Government has filed suit against India for property tax default;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the foreign countries pay property and other taxes to Government of India or cities where they own the properties;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether they are exempted from payment of tax; if so, the reasons therefor?

Regional Passport Office Ahmedabad

3085. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Regional Passport Office at Ahmedabad, Gujarat is overburdened resulting in inordinate delay in issuing passports;
- (b) whether Government have received any demand to open Regional Passport Offices at Rajkot and Surat; and
- (c) the number of passports issued by Regional Passport Office at Ahmedabad during the last three years in Gujarat with a break up of the seven districts of Saurashtra area and a district of Kutch?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Bill against India in US Congress

3086. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Bill has been passed by US Congress imposing restriction on aid to India due to nonpayment of tax for a building in New York;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the action being taken by Government in the matter?

US support to India for permanent seat in Security Council

3087. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has taken up its demand of permanent seat in the UN Security Council at appropriate level;
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the US stand in this regard and whether USA has offered India conditional support on this issue; and
- (d) what steps are being taken by India to firm up its claim?

Inter-Ministerial Committee to review passport issuance procedure

3088. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have constituted Inter-Ministerial Committee to review the system of issue of passports and simplifying it;
- (b) whether it has submitted its report; if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon:

- (c) whether registration of Adoption Deed is mandatory for the passport of an adopted child;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor along with the rule/provision in this regard;
- (e) whether the said Committee considered this provision; and
- (f) the details regarding applications received in May, 2003 in Delhi for passport of adopted minors, passport issued, representation received from non-issuance of passport till date and the action taken on such representations?

Contracts to Indian Companies in Iraq

3089. SHRI B.J. PANDA: MISS MABEL REBELLO: SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of contracts bagged by the Indian firms in the reconstruction process in Iraq either through Permanent Mission of India, New York or otherwise, if any, including the value of these contracts and the names of the companies; and
- (b) whether any office has also been set up in Iraq to help our companies to bag the work jobs, if so, the details thereof?

China's help to Pakistan

3090. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that China continues to extend huge financial grants and technology to Pakistan;
- (b) whether Government are aware that China is helping Pakistan to build a deep sea port at Gwadar which may be used by China for its Navy; and

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

Intrusion by Chinese Army

3091. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chinese army have intruded in Indian territory of Arunachal Pradesh especially when a high level Indian delegation was recently on visit to China;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what steps are being taken by Government to stop Chinese high handedness?

Bush praises Musharraf

3092. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether US President George Bush praised Parvez Musharraf during the latters's visit to the United States on his performance in respect of containing terrorism in the Indian Sub-continent; and
- (b) if so, Government's reaction to the said assessment of the situation by the United States?

Indo-US agreement on nonextradition

3093. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and USA have signed an agreement to prevent the extradition of Indian and American Nationals accused of human rights violations to third countries;

- (b) if so, whether this agreement is considered a significant steps as it secures for India an important ally in its argument upholding the sanctity of National Judicial Systems over multilateral ones like the International Criminal Court in Rome or the International Court of Justice in the Hague; and
- (c) if so, the other main features of the agreement?

Kolkata-Dhaka bus service

- 3094. PROF. M. SANKARA-LINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to start the Kolkata-Dhaka bus service soon as per the agreement between India and Bangladesh reached two years back;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what are the difficulties faced by both the sides for the delay in this venture?

Refund of social security payments

- 3095. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India has asked USA to refund social security payments;
- (b) if so, the response of US Government in this regard; and
- (c) the total amount of payments to be refunded?

Invitation to PDP leader to Session on Kashmir

3096. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Government plans to hold a session on

Kashmir and invited PDP leader Mehbooba to attend it:

- (b) whether they have chosen to ignore the Indian viewpoint at the same time explaining that it was a routine scenario, which is conducted regularly in the USA; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to ensure that it does not adversely affect our interests?

Chakma Hajong refugees

3097. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chakma Hajong refugees issue is a major bone of contention between India and Bangladesh;
- (b) the number of such refugees staying unauthorizedly in country's North-Eastern States; State-wise;
- (c) the number of refugees who have been accorded Indian citizenship;
- (d) whether any State Government has asked the Centre for their eviction from its State:
- (e) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Bangladesh Government; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Annual increase in unemployed persons

†3098. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the implementation of new economic policy in

- the country, there is a difference in the annual increase in unemployed persons in every State:
- (b) if so, the annual rate of increase in the employment in each State; and
- (c) the annual rate of increase in persons seeking employment in each State?

Construction of model ESI hospital at Asramam

- 3099. SHRI N. K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the stage at which the development of model ESI hospital Asramam, Kollam, stands at present;
- (b) by when, the construction of the new speciality block would commence and what is the anticipated period by which it is likely to be completed;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to open ESI divisional office at Kollam; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Freed child labourers

- 3100. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of bonded children freed from their incarceration during the last three years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the freed children are back into bondage no sooner than they are released;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the prevailing laws in this regard are inadequate to

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

guarantee the rights of a child freed from bondage; and

(e) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to strengthen the laws to ensure that the rescued children are adequately provided for and trained until they reach adulthood?

Condition of bonded labourers

- 3101. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the condition of bonded labourers in the country has gone from bad to worse, if so, the steps proposed to tackle this problem;
 - (b) the States where this problem exist;
- (c) whether the States are not following the National Human Rights Commission's directives: and
- (d) the steps being taken for compliance of NHRC's directives in this regard?

Amendment in child labour laws

3102. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Human Rights Commission has impressed upon the Central Government to amend laws relating to child labour and set a time frame to achieve free and compulsory education for children in collaboration with the States; and
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Commission?

Employment exchanges

- †3103. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are some districts in the country where the employment exchanges are not functioning;
- (b) if so, the name of such districts, State-wise:
- (c) whether Government have set a target to open employment exchanges in all district Headquarters and the cities having population over one lakh; and
- (d) if so, by when, these employment exchanges would be opened?

Bonded girl labourers in A.P.

3104. MISS MABEL REBELLO: SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during a survey girls were found engaged as bonded labour in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether this illegal practice has been going on since long;
- (c) whether around 4,50,000 children in the age group of 6—14 years are employed in cotton seed fields in the country of which Andhra Pradesh alone account for 2,47,800; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government to free them from bonded labour and send them to schools under the new legislative provisions of free education?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Deposit of Employees Provident Fund

- 3105. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether provident fund of the employees of Punjab Wakf Board is not being deposited with the Provident Fund Commissioner;
- (b) if so, since when and what are the reasons therefor:
- (c) what action has been taken against those responsible for this State of affairs;
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to deposit the employees provident fund with the Provident Fund Commissioner?

Pending NCLP

- 3106. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the proposals sent by the State Government of Maharashtra under the Central Government's National Child Labour Project, are pending with the Ministry;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Employment exchanges in Chhattisgarh

- 3107. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of employment exchanges in Chhattisgarh and the number of candidates registered for employment opportunity in these exchanges;

- (b) the number of candidates still on the waiting list of job seekers in each employment exchange in the State, district-wise:
- (c) the rate of registration of new candidates every year; and
- (d) the details of ratio of job opportunities provided by each exchange to the registrants for the last three years, year-wise?

Utilisation of seats for trade apprentices in establishments

- 3108. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the percentage of utilisation of seats located for trade apprentices in establishments in Central and State sectors respectively;
- (b) what is the position in respect of seats located and utilised in graduate technician and technician (vocational apprentices) and physically handicapped in both Central and State establishments;
- (c) the steps taken both persuasive and legal to ensure full quota of apprenticeships in establishments and the number of erring establishments brought to book?

Insurance cover to migrant labourers

- 3109. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had proposed mandatory insurance cover to Indian migrant labourers even when it was opposed to by Ministry's own Finance Department;
- (b) if so, the nature of objections raised and the solution found out;
- (c) whether Government have recommended amendments in the

emigration act to check exploitation and provide social security to migrant labourers;

- (d) if so, the action taken thereon; and
- (e) whether it is proposed to send a delegation to countries where Indian labourers are employed and if so, the details thereof alongwith the expenditure to be incurred thereon?

I.L.O. Convention

- 3110. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India is a founder member of the International Labour Organisation (ILO);
- (b) if so, whether the competent authority ratified the Convention (No. 87) on Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organise and the Convention (No. 98) on Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the steps would be taken to curtail the provisions to dismiss Government employees through an Ordinance?

Job opportunities in hotel industry

- 3111. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that hotel industry offers great opportunities for job; and
- (b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to promote hotel management jobs on a larger scale?

Working condition of migrant labourers

- 3112. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided to send Indian officers to certain countries to study working condition of Indian migrant labourers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith likely expenditure to be incurred on the visit;
- (c) whether this can not be done through obtaining inputs from Indian Embassies and Emigration Agencies; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to check exploitation of Indian migrant labourers in foreign countries?

Setting up of National Commission for Employment Generation

- 3113. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is proposed to set up a National Commission for Employment Generation;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Cases against defaulting employers

- 3114. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of cases initiated by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation against the defaulting employers under various provisions of law during the year 2002-2003;
- (b) the number of such cases pending as on the 31st March, 2003;
- (c) the cases which are more than three years old;

- (d) the reasons for delay in disposal thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by Government to expedite them?

Urology Unit at ESI Hospital, Indiranagar, Bangalore

- 3115. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal to start Urology Unit at ESI Hospital, Indiranagar Bangalore; and
 - (b) if so, the action taken thereon?

Creation of additional employment

- 3116. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) what are the various projects launched by Government to create additional employment during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) the target set under these projects/ schemes, State-wise;
- (c) whether any monitoring agency has been set up to review the problems of these projects; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Minimum wages for beedi workers

- †3117. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that rates of the minimum wages in respect of beedi workers vary State to State;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government are going to take to fix uniform rates of minimum wages in respect of beedi workers throughout the country?

Cell for upliftment of working women

- †3118. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any special cell has been set up for the upliftment in the conditions of female workers;
 - (b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;
- (c) whether this cell could improve upon the conditions of female workers; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Global survey report by ILO

- 3119. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the International Labour Organisation in a global survey report which was released in May, 2003 states that women constitute the single largest group discriminated against at work place with low wages, adverse working conditions, low rate of employment and greater insecurity, and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to end discrimination against women, provide equal opportunities at par with men and accord respectable position to them?

House building loan/assistance to beedi workers

- 3120. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any provision in the new housing policy to provide house

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

building loan to beedi workers from Employees Provident Fund;

- (b) if so, the details thereof showing the eligibility criteria and the rate of interest on house building loan;
- (c) whether Government are running or propose to start any scheme to provide assistance to beedi workers in house building;
- (d) if so, the details thereof showing the number of beedi workers benefited by the scheme, State-wise including the State of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Exodus of labourers

†3121. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a migration of labourers from one State to another:
- (b) if so, the estimated percentage of labourers migrating from each State
- (c) whether the reasons for such migration have also been examined; and
- (d) if so, the main reasons with regard to each State, for such migration?

Decline in productivity by labour

†3122. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's GDP is likely to suffer a loss to the tune of

- Rs. 1,00,000 crores annually due to poor productivity by the labourers;
- (b) if not, Government's estimate in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government had started any national level programme in recent days for boosting productivity and if so, the blue-print thereof?

Supreme court's direction on child labour

3123. DR. ABRAR AHMED: SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Supreme Court's directon regarding the manner in which the children working in hazardous occupations, are to be withdrawn from work and rehabilitated, are strictly followed by all the State Governments;
- (b) whether Government monitor the action taken by the State Governments in this regard; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Assistance to workers abroad

3124. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the nature of assistance provided to Indian workers in foreign countries once they are in distress; and
- (b) the help provided to such workers during the last two years, year-wise?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Closure of mills in Kanpur

- †3125. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to
- (a) whether Government are aware that many families have committed suicide en masse as a result of closure of mills in Kanpur city and if so, the number of labourers committed suicide;
- (b) whether Government are contemplating any measures to protect the labourers who are compelled to commit suicide as a result of helplessness; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Unemployment problem in J and K

- 3126. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any proposal for resolving the unemployment problem in Jammu and Kashmir during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the areas which would provide these jobs;
- (d) whether any time frame has been set to create/generate the jobs; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Child labour

- 3127. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of child labourers in the country as on the 30th June, 2003, Statewise;
- (b) whether Government have any proposal to constitute the National

Commission on Child in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

pleased to state:

†3128. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be

Poverty line

- (a) the definition of the poverty line;
- (b) the population which is below poverty line, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to bring them above the poverty line?

Border Area Development Projects in Manipur

- 3129. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the Border Area Development Projects (BADP) taken up during the Ninth Five Year Plan period in Manipur;
- (b) whether provision of schemes under BADP for Manipur are commensurate to the extent of its border areas with Myanmar; and
- (c) the agency for implementation of BADP and agency to see proper implementation of the schemes?

Losses to coal bearing States

- 3130. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Planning Commission has conducted any study on the losses to Coal bearing States in respect of royalty and other matters;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether findings of the report have been made public;
- (d) whether corrective measures have been initiated on the findings; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Jatropha plantation

3131. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has submitted any proposal to Government to launch a Nation-wide Jatropha plantation with a view to generate Biofuels to tap Non-Conventional Sources of Energy in the Country; and
 - (b) if so, the details of the proposal?

Impact assessment of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3132. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Planning Commission and outside professional agencies have decided to undertake impact assessment of the centrally sponsored schemes for which evaluation has not yet been undertaken;
- (b) if so, whether this would help Government in deciding whether the schemes should be continued or weeded out;
- (c) whether this decision of Government would help to ensure that the

performance of Centrally Sponsored Schemes get evaluated;

- (d) if so, by when the findings of the evaluation would be completed;
- (e) whether all the Central schemes upto Ninth Plan would be considered; and
- (f) if so, by when a final assessment would be made?

Loan from open market by Orissa

3133. SHRI B.J. PANDA: MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Centre fix limits within which a State can float a loan from the open market;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such a limit has been fixed for the State of Orissa;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that Orissa has lifted Rs. 3.39 billion from the open market, a first loan in the current fiscal year; and
- (f) whether the State can go ahead to float such loan upto 10 billion in the current fiscal year?

People below poverty line

- †3134. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether 28 per cent people in India are living below the poverty line;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the number of the people living above the poverty line in Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh is more

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

in comparison to the National Level and whether Government have any plan to bring down the said level; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Upliftment of women above poverty line

- †3135. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent of the total population living below poverty line are women;
- (b) if so, the action plan contemplated by Government to uplift the women above poverty line; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

Additional Central Assistance to Andhra Pradesh

- 3136. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have provided Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to Andhra Pradesh for specified projects in addition to the funds provided under Annual Plans of the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and project-wise; and
- (c) what is the present status of each of these projects in the State?

Identification of BPL people in States

- 3137. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a dispute between almost all the States and

Planning Commission so far as the number of people living below the Poverty line in such States;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for huge gaps in the findings of States and Planning Commission; and
- (c) what action Government propose to take to resolve the issue between States and Planning Commission?

Financial package to States facing financial crises

3138. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the States that have sought financial package from the Centre to meet the present financial crises; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Border Area Development Fund for R.S. Pura

- 3139. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether funds for Border Area Development are sanctioned regularly particularly regions like R.S. Pura;
 - (b) if not, the reason thereof;
- (c) if so, the funds sanctioned during the last five years; and
- (d) in what manner these funds have been utilised?

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Amount allocated to Jammu and Kashmir for roads

- 3140. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total amount allocated to Jammu and Kashmir for original and maintenance works on Highways during the last three years;
- (b) whether the amount allocated has been utilised as per schedule;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Andaman Trunk Road

- 3141. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court ruled in 2002 that the portion of the Andaman Trunk Road passing through Jarawa Reserve in Andaman Island shall be closed:
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Shekhar Singh Committee had earlier recommended steps to protect bio-diversity of the Island;
- (c) whether it has been implemented; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Road projects under CRF in Uttar Pradesh

- †3142. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of projects started under Central Road Fund in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;
- (b) the number of projects completed so far;

- (c) the present position of the other projects; and
- (d) the other projects of Uttar Pradesh financed under the Central Road Fund?

Damage to NH-52 and NH-37 by flood

- 3143. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1018 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 2002 and state:
- (a) the details of the damage caused by flood during 2002 and till July 2003 to NH-52 and NH-37;
- (b) the details of the damage repaired and proposed to be repaired to attain at least 60 kmh speed from the present average speed of 30 kmh;
- (c) the total allocations made towards replacement of wooden bridge, strengthening and widening of National Highways and target fixed for such improvement, year-wise and sector-wise during Tenth Plan period;
- (d) whether the flood damages are compensated from other sources of funding; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Transportation facilities in Northern States

- 3144. DR. A.R. KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether to facilitate the transportation of goods from the landlocked Northern States to the major ports of the country, Government have laid down schemes to improve road connectivity to ten ports in the country;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the concrete steps considered in this regard;
- (c) by what time these projects are likely to be completed;
- (d) whether the original plan to complete these projects was December, 2003; and
- (e) if so, to what extent it would be achieved?

Mumbai-Pune Expressway

- 3145. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for the reimbursement of the Central Government's share of the cost of Mumbai-Pune Expressway since it is a part of the Golden Quadrilateral Project;
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto; and
- (c) by when Government would make payment as reimbursement to the Maharashtra Government?

Introduction of tamper proof number plates

- 3146. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to introduce tamper proof number plates for new vehicles as well as the existing ones;
- (b) if so, whether the estimated cost to introduce the new tamper proof number plates has been assessed;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) on what grounds the new system of number plates is being introduced?

Introduction of new number plates

- 3147. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any cost benefit analysis of introducing the new system of number plates has been made;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in many advanced countries such a new number plate system have not been introduced;
- (d) what is the necessity to introduce the new number plates in the country; and
- (e) whether any comprehensive study in the matter have been conducted and if not, whether Government propose to commission a study and put up the report before the Parliament before taking any further step?

Assistance to Chhattisgarh for roads

- 3148. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have provided any assistance to Chhattisgarh for construction, repair and maintenance of roads;
- (b) the quantum of assistance provided for the last one year;
- (c) the details of the proposals submitted by the State Government for that period; and
- (d) the number of projects completed as against those approved by the Central Government in the State Government's proposal?

Improvement of National Highways in Kerala

- 3149. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the proposals received from the State Government of Kerala for improvement of National Highways in the State:
- (b) whether necessary approvals have been granted to the proposals; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount sanctioned to each of the projects?

National highways in Uttar Pradesh

- †3150. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of National Highways in the country;
- (b) whether Government are aware of the percentage of the total National Highways which exists in the State of Uttar Pradesh alone: and
 - (c) the details thereof?

Opposition of NGOs regarding road projects

- 3151. SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the East-West corridor in the Golden Quadrilateral is being opposed by several Non-Governmental Organisations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps proposed to meet the objections raised?

Damage of NH-31 and NH-52 by recent flood

- 3152. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether several portions of the NH-31 and NH-52 have been badly damaged by recent flood in Assam;
- (b) if so, whether the damage is likely to be assessed; and
- (c) what measures would be taken to rebuild these highways after proper assessment?

Conversion of petrol cars to CNG ones

- 3153. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have imposed any ban on the conversion of private old car driven on petrol to C.N.G.;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to revoke the ban; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Private sector response to mega road projects

3154. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

- Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether mega road projects draw huge response of private sector;
- (b) if so, what are the total number of private sector that have been permitted to complete the road projects under Golden Quadrilateral Scheme;

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) whether the completion of the road projects under the above scheme would be completed in time;
- (d) if so, to what extent delay has been reduced in these projects;
- (e) whether number of issues like incentives for allowing operators to retain the toll money and 30 per cent equity in both projects have also helped accelerate the entire programme; and
- (f) what is the latest position of these projects?

National Highways of Tamil Nadu

- 3155. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Highways of Tamil Nadu are also covered under the Golden Quardrilateral Project and North-South, East-West corridors;
- (b) if so, the present status of the project in Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) by when, the project is likely to be completed?

Four-lane roads in the country

- 3156. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details on the existing four-lane road length in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details regarding the on-going four-laning projects;
- (c) the number of four-laning projects that are under examination and considered for approval of Government, at present; and
 - (d) the details thereof, State-wise;

Loss due to poor road condition

†3157. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per an estimate a loss of Rs. 20,000 to 30,000 crores per year is being suffered due to poor condition of roads in the country;
- (b) if not, the estimate of Government in this regard;
- (c) whether there is any possibility to put an end to these losses; and
 - (d) if so, by when it would be done?

Construction of Golden Quadrilateral

†3158. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that construction works of 'Golden Quadrilateral' highway meant to link four metros has been delayed due to non-cooperation by State Government; and
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard alongwith the names of the States together with the areas wherein States have failed to co-operate appropriately?

Products manufactured by SSIs

3159. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of products that are manufactured by SSI in the country;
- (b) the target set for export of SSI products for the years 2003-04; and
- (c) the details of exports made during the last five years; year-wise?

Comprehensive law for SSIs

3160. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to bring forward a comprehensive law on Small Scale Industries on the line of Companies Act; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

Satellite tests

- †3161. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government are thinking

over any programme for conducting more satellite tests in the Space in view of successful test of G.S.L.V. by the Indian scientists recently; and

(b) if so, the expected success for attaining the self sufficiency in Space programme?

Air Navigation over the Indian Air Space

3162. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether ISRO, in co-ordination with AAI, is working to build Air Navigation over the Indian Air Space;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for technology demonstration; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

New Delhi; The 14th August, 2003 Sravana 23, 1925 (Saka) YOGENDRA NARAIN, Secretary-General.

[†]Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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