

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the March 22, 2002/Chaitra 1, 1924 (Saka)*

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

Total number of questions—155

#### College of fisheries in Bihar

†2058. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intend to open a college of fisheries in Bihar for development of pisciculture;
- (b) if so, by when and the efforts made by Government so far; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### Plan for earthquake and cyclone in Gujarat

2059. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the entire Gujarat region is prone to earthquake and cyclone;
- (b) if so, whether Government have made any survey in this regard;
- (c) whether Government have made any long-term planning to face such natural disasters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### Boosting the farm sector

2060. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have devised concrete plans for implementation during the Tenth Five Year Plan period, to boost the farm sector;
- (b) if so, the details of the plans;
- (c) the expenditure expected to be incurred during that period, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (d) the estimated increase in production, State-wise and year-wise?

#### Dumping of milk products

2061. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that milk, milk-powder and other milk-related products are dumping in the country at cheaper rates, which has caused less demand and loss to milk producers of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that milk

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

producers in the country are poor and not in a position to face the challenge; and

(d) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government to prevent dumping and to produce more milk in the country?

#### **Pisciculture schemes in Bihar**

†2062. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start pisciculture schemes in various water logged areas and the rivers in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Suicide by farmers**

†2063. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1390, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 2001 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tendency of committing suicide by farmers is on the increase all over the country due to non-payment of loans as a result of crop losses due to damage of crops and not getting appropriate price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise number of farmers who committed suicide so far;

(d) the measures being taken by Government to check this trend in future; and

(e) whether Government would provide concession to farmers in the rate of interest on loans and special assistance?

#### **Repealing the Milk and Milk Products Order**

2064. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to repeal the Milk and Milk Products Order which imposes restrictions on setting up units, with large capacity, by the private entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, what are Government's plans in this regard; and

(c) what safeguards are being taken by Government so that it is not misused?

#### **ACPC workshop on MSP**

2065. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices organised a workshop to determine the best way of arriving at the Minimum Support Price;

(b) if so, what has been the outcome of the workshop;

(c) the details of factors considered for arriving at the best Minimum Support Price;

(d) whether the workshop was represented by all the farmers' representatives from all the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the details of their contribution in the workshop?

#### **Constraints of land and water for agricultural production**

2066. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether both the land and water are crucial constraints on our efforts to expand production in agriculture;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study on this aspect; and

(c) the efforts proposed to be made in this direction during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

#### **Cold and heat waves in Orissa**

2067. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cold waves and heat waves that Orissa has been experiencing during the recent years, do not find place in the items of expenditure applied by the Ministry in the Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that cold and heat waves have become a regular phenomena in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the measures taken in this regard?

#### **Integrated Development of Roots and Tubers in Gujarat**

2068. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the Central Scheme of Integrated Development of Roots and Tubers in Gujarat; and

(b) since when the scheme is under implementation in the State and what results have been achieved, so far, in this regard?

#### **Reviewing agricultural subsidies**

2069. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how far the agricultural subsidies provided by the Central Government have benefited the farming community *vis-a-vis* agricultural sector as a whole;

(b) whether Government propose to review the same and plan for providing WTO compatible subsidies to agricultural products;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when such subsidies are likely to be implemented?

#### **MSP for crops**

†2070. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to fix Minimum Support Price for major crops as per the market trend;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures Government would take to protect the interest of farmers?

#### **Earthquake relief and rehabilitation programmes in Gujarat**

2071. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any appraisal of various programmes taken up for rehabilitation of the victims of Gujarat earthquake, has been made by Government;

(b) if so, what are the areas where progress in the above work has been found wanting;

(c) what are the reasons identified for slow progress in relief and rehabilitation work; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to accelerate the progress in implementation of the programmes?

**Increase in cost of agriculture production**

†2072. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN  
SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main problem of agriculture is the situation arising due to incessant increase in cost of production;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Society of Agricultural Science and Indian Council of Agricultural Research have realised the need for comprehensive charges in research work, keeping in view the agriculture aspect of WTO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Crop insurance in Chhattisgarh**

2073. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) which insurance company has been entrusted the work of crop insurance in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom;

(c) the number of farmers for whom sanction for payment of insured sum has been accorded due to destruction of crops during 2001-2002; and

(d) the details of amount actually deposited by the Central and the State Government with the insurance company?

**NWDPRA in Gujarat**

2074. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have released grants to Gujarat under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and the number of projects that came up in the State during the said period;

(c) the number of projects completed and the number of projects under construction in the State, district-wise; and

(d) by when these projects would be completed?

**Development of floriculture in Gujarat**

2075. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integrated Development of Floriculture, a Central Scheme is under implementation in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the kind of flowers being grown and promoted in the State;

(d) whether flowers are also being exported from the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Infrastructure for agricultural research and education in Rajasthan**

2076. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what infrastructure has been provided to Rajasthan for agricultural research and education;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether this infrastructure in that State is inadequate;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken to augment the existing infrastructure and to raise it upto the desired level?

#### **Foot and mouth disease in A.P.**

2077. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has sought an assistance of Rs. 158 crore to eradicate foot and mouth disease of cattle; and

(b) if so, the amount released so far and by when the remaining amount would be given?

#### **Livestock Development Agency Project in A.P.**

2078. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centrally sponsored Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency Project is in doldrums, with the Centre cutting the assured funds;

(b) if so, the reasons for not releasing Rs. 90 crore under Gopalamitra Scheme; and

(c) the action proposed to release the funds allocated, at the earliest?

#### **Drought relief works in Orissa and Rajasthan**

2079. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred

Question 168, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st March, 2002 and state:

(a) the number of districts in Rajasthan and Orissa declared as drought affected during 2000—2002;

(b) the amount of additional grant sought for each year by the State Governments to take up drought relief work, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not sanctioning the sought amount in full to above mentioned States, to tackle the drought effectively?

#### **Impact of China's membership of WTO on Indian agriculture**

†2080. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian agricultural production and marketing is likely to be affected by China joining the World Trade Organization; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken to save agricultural sector from its ill-effects?

#### **Remunerative price for soyabean in A.P.**

2081. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the share of Andhra Pradesh in the production of soyabean in the country during the last three years year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that soyabean farmers of the State are not getting remunerative prices for the produce; and

(c) what action Government have taken to provide remunerative prices to soyabean producers and to increase its production in the State?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Remunerative price for cotton**

2082. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton growers in various States, including Gujarat, are not getting remunerative price for their crop and a large number of farmers are reported to have committed suicide;

(b) if so, the number of such cases during the last two years; and

(c) the remedial action taken by Government in this regard?

**Transfer of Central Farm at Aralem to Kerala**

2083. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has requested to transfer the Central State Farm at Aralem to Kerala;

(b) whether Government have taken a decision in the matter; and

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

**MSP for red gram in Karnataka**

2084. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the red gram growing farmers in Karnataka are incurring losses, due to market fluctuations, low yield and menace of pest;

(b) if so, whether Government would enhance the Minimum Support Price from Rs. 1320/- to Rs. 2000/-; and

(c) the details of steps Government propose to take to protect the red gram growers?

**Coconut Technology Mission**

2085. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sanction has since been given to the Coconut Technology Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds required for this project and the amount already allocated; and

(d) the present status of the work of the project and by when the project would be completed?

**NWDPR Scheme in A.P.**

2086. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the current status of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas Scheme in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have evaluated the success of the scheme in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Availability of genetically improved cotton and rice**

2087. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether genetically engineered/improved cotton and rice is likely to be made available to farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Treaty on food security**

2088. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) approved a Treaty to protect the variety of world's crops;

(b) whether India also participated in the deliberations of the organisation in finalising this Treaty;

(c) whether many countries have opined that the Treaty may not have any real impact in the war on hunger as the current crop test falls far short of the global food security needs; and

(d) if so, how the Treaty is being viewed by India?

### **New institutes of ICAR in NER**

2089. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new institutes established by ICAR in the North Eastern States indicating the location, dates of establishment, present status, total sanctioned staff, vacancy positions, activities till date etc.;

(b) whether these institutes could not function due to inadequate staff; and

(c) if so, the action initiated and the target set to complete the recruitment process?

### **World Bank's assistance for rehabilitation work in Gujarat**

2090. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR 'BIRLA': Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank had extended support for massive earthquake

rehabilitation programme to Gujarat Government during the last year;

(b) if so, the details of assistance rendered by the World Bank to the Gujarat Government;

(c) whether the World Bank has recently sought report regarding qualitative quake rehabilitation Programmes; and

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have sought report from the State Government about the relief and rehabilitation progress after the quake and if so, the details thereof?

### **Passage of wheat exported to Afghanistan through Pakistan**

†2091. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has threatened not to allow passage for Indian wheat exported to Afghanistan *via* Pakistan alleging the wheat to be of substandard quality and infected with weevils; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard and the quantum of wheat sent to Afghanistan *via* Pakistan, so far?

### **Price control regime under new drug policy**

2092. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new drug policy has been formulated;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the fresh criteria laid down to bring/retain a drug under the price control regime;

(c) the steps proposed towards liberalisation of the drug industry and the mechanism evolved to counter attempts at cartelization by drug manufactures, to ensure availability of essential and life

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

saving medicines of good quality, at reasonable prices; and

(d) the specific measures outlined to attract additional investments and to achieve higher national R & D expenditure in the drug industry?

#### **Indo-Oman fertilizer plant**

2093. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Oman have signed an initial agreement to build a \$ 969 million fertilizer plant in the Gulf State;

(b) if so, whether the State-run Oman Oil Company would hold a 50 per cent stake in the project, while India's krishak Bharti Co-operative limited (KRIBHCO) and Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-operative (IFFCO) would hold the remaining 25 per cent each);

(c) if so, what are the details of the agreement reached; and

(d) by when this plant is likely to be set up?

#### **Increase in production cost of fertilizers**

†2094. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the production cost of chemical fertilizers has increased during a period of last three years, from March, 1998 till the end of December, 2001, due to rise in the price of coal, gas and naphtha;

(b) if so, to what extent the cost of chemical fertilizers has increased and when; and

(c) the extent of increase in the production cost of each of the chemical

fertilizers produced in the country from March, 1998 to December, 2001?

#### **New Pharmaceutical Policy**

2095. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the new Pharmaceutical Policy, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the new policy aims at a shift from the Controlled to the monitoring regime; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken to make available quality and life-saving drugs at affordable prices; and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Self-sufficiency in fertilizers**

2096. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 191, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st March, 2002 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken in the new consumption norms for fertilizer industry, to minimize reliance on imported fertilizers; and

(b) whether these new norms are expected to move towards self-sufficiency in fertilizers and boost their exports; if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Phosphatic fertilizer plant at Amjhore**

2097. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(a) whether Phosphatic Fertilizer Plant at Amjhore in Bihar is not functioning satisfactorily and is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to close down the plant or privatize it;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry into the allegations of irregularities in that plant; and

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

#### **Toxic chemicals from incinerators**

2098. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that studies abroad indicate that incinerators emit super toxic chemicals, causing health hazards;

(b) whether any such study has been conducted in India;

(c) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to protect the environment?

#### **Ban on plastic carry bags**

2099. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have notified the ban on use of plastic carry bags;

(b) if so, when was it notified;

(c) the names of States which have banned the use of plastic carry bags; and

(d) whether Karnataka has also banned the use of plastic carry bags?

#### **Protection of Similipal Tiger Reserve**

2100. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that protection of Similipal Tiger Reserve in Orissa was to be handed over to the Central Reserve Police Force; if so, the details thereof;

(b) what are the reasons for delay in implementing the same; and

(c) whether Government are also considering any steps for such deployment in other areas in the country, including Orissa?

#### **Wild Life conservation**

2101. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister announced in the meeting of Indian Board for Wild Life held on 22nd January, 2002, that there is a need to reconcile economic growth and development with the wild life conservation and to safeguard the interest of local community, living in and around wild life habitats;

(b) if so, the other matters discussed in the meeting; and

(c) in what manner the State Governments are likely to be benefited, particularly Gujarat?

#### **Pollution in Kolkata**

2102. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study on the continuously increasing pollution in Kolkata city;

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the pollution levels in this metropolitan city; and

(c) whether Government have allocated any funds to the West Bengal Government for controlling pollution in that city; if so, the details thereof?

#### **Illegal construction in Northern Ridge in Delhi**

2103. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal construction in Northern Ridge, known as Kamla Nehru Ridge, in Delhi was carried out in 1998-99 by the forest department, in utter disregard of the Supreme Court orders which had specifically stated that no construction would be undertaken in Delhi ridge to maintain in its pristine glory;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, including the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) what action Government had taken against the officer concerned for the blatant violation of Supreme Court orders?

#### **Ecological crisis in Sabari Mala**

2104. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the Hindu dated the 27th December, 2001 on the alarmingly surpassed carrying capacity and the ecological, legal and managerial crisis on the site of the Sabari Mala Shrine, located in the Periyar Tiger Reserve;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(c) whether any further studies were initiated to resolve the issue at the earliest?

#### **Endangered species of fish**

2105. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study had been initiated before enlisting nine species of fish as endangered and imposing ban under the Wildlife Protection Act during December, 2001;

(b) the details of steps taken to identify the species, fishermen netted, before they were hauled on board;

(c) whether there is any project for alternate livelihood to local fishermen, before imposing this ban; and

(d) whether there is any scheme to solve the problems of fishermen of Lakshadweep Island, whose main livelihood is fishing, before enforcing the above ban?

#### **Environment hazard of industrial wastes**

2106. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial wastes of highly persistent nature are causing danger to life and environment;

(b) if so, the details of such industries in the country which have been notified by the authorities, State-wise; and

(c) the details of cases filed against such industries and of the convictions, State-wise?

#### **River pollution**

†2107. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

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

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for implementation of a scheme, at National level, for saving the country's rivers from pollution;

(b) if so, the details of that scheme and when the decision to implement that scheme was taken; and

(c) the names of rivers which have been saved from getting polluted under this scheme, so far?

#### **Eucalyptus trees spoiling soil**

2108. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Eucalyptus trees spoil the surrounding soil; and

(b) if so, the action taken to prohibit its planting in urban areas?

#### **Forest cover in N.E.R.**

2109. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the present area under forest cover in the whole of N.E. Region;

(b) whether it is upto the required need; and

(c) what are the plans and projects of the Ministry to bring it closer to standard level of forest cover in the Region?

#### **Viability of eco-tourism**

2110. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "Is eco-tourism economically viable in India", appearing in The Times of India dated 23rd February, 2002;

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

(c) whether Government would undertake a study on the possibility of economic viability of eco-tourism in the country; and

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

#### **Sparrow population**

2111. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a study was conducted in London on the decline of sparrow population;

(b) whether it is a fact that sparrow population is decreasing in India also; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to check the decline?

#### **Environmental degradation**

2112. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that liberalisation has aggravated the problems of environmental degradation, deforestation, soil erosion, pollution of air and water resources, dumping of imported toxic industrial wastes in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ensure well-being and livelihood of the people?

#### **Import of plastic wastes**

2113. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of plastic wastes is increasing in our country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Justice R.N. Misra Committee has recommended a ban on import of plastic wastes; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to check environmental hazards to health by plastic wastes?

**Environment clearance of tourism project in Gujarat**

2114. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tourism project of Gujarat is pending environmental clearance by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when the project proposal was received by Government;

(d) the reasons for delay in clearance; and

(e) by when the project is likely to be cleared by Government?

**Afforestation in Yamuna river bed**

2115. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in order to check pollution in the river Yamuna, Government have decided to Launch a scheme under which ditches would be dug in the river bed and river banks would undergo afforestation in a big way;

(b) if so, when this scheme is going to be launched;

(c) whether this scheme is a part of Yamuna Action Plan or is a separate scheme; and

(d) the amount already spent on Yamuna Action Plan and the amount earmarked for this new scheme?

**Clearance to food processing projects**

‡2116. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects approved by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries during the year 2001; and

(b) the amount allocated for implementation of the same?

**Export of processed foods**

2117. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed various food articles that could be processed for export;

(b) if so, the details of such articles, State-wise;

(c) what are the details of various marine-based food processing articles/ industries set up in India, State-wise;

(d) which countries are importing processed food articles from India; and

(e) the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise?

**Export of dairy products**

2118. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the largest producer as well as consumer of milk in the world;

(b) if so, the figure of milk production and consumption during the last three years;

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the prospects of export of dairy products in the world market; and

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

#### **Effect of imported processed foods**

2119. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the processed foods entering into Indian market from various countries are adversely affecting the Indian food processing industries;

(b) if so, the details of food articles being adversely affected due to open competition; and

(c) what are the processed food articles produced in India, using foreign brand names and the details of the industries using them?

#### **Setting up of FPIs**

†2120. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many projects for setting up of food processing industries in the country were approved during March 1998 to December, 2001;

(b) if so, the number of enterprises whose applications were received during that period;

(c) how many of those applications were sanctioned; and

(d) how many projects have been established so far, out of the sanctioned projects?

#### **Food processing parks in Karnataka**

2121. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has forwarded a proposal for approval of three food processing parks at Belgaum, Maddur and Chitradurga; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

#### **Promotion of Science and Technology through regional languages**

2122. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the State Bureau of Text Book Preparation and Production, Orissa for production of two volumes of Glossary on Scientific and Technical books in regional languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are being taken by Government to promote Science and Technology through regional languages in different States?

#### **Budget for women specific schemes**

2123. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether budgetary allocations for women specific schemes have declined during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to get more funds from the Ministry of Finance, to accelerate women's empowerment

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

programmes and comprehensive welfare schemes for older single women, including widows?

**Freezing the number of employees in KVS**

2124. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 254, given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st March, 2002 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, had issued directions to undertake the work of freezing classes/sections, much before the decision of the Academic Advisory Committee on 16th March, 1999;

(b) if so, on which date the freezing of classes/sections was begun by the Commissioner; and

(c) the composition, powers and functions of Academic Advisory Committee of KVS and its relation with KVS and its Board of Governors?

**Updating the university curricula**

2125. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has directed all universities to update the curricula of the courses offered by them by July, 2002;

(b) if so, whether a circular has been issued to universities, directing them to update syllabi of the courses offered, so that students are kept abreast with the latest developments in their subjects chosen; and

(c) whether seven of the 19 universities have been given permission for introducing astrology as a subject upto now?

**Number of schools**

2126. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children in the age group 6—14 in the country; State-wise;

(b) the total number of schools required for education of these children; and

(c) the total number of schools available presently in the country, State-wise?

**Wages to workers under ICDS projects**

2127. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are working hours of different categories of labourers and staff working under I.C.D.S. projects;

(b) the wages being paid to different categories of labourers and staff working under those projects;

(c) whether the wages being paid to meet the norms of minimum wages, as laid down by the Government of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, with the action to be taken in this regard?

**Harassment of females in Delhi Schools**

2128. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:  
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

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

(a) whether cases of molestation and sexual harassment of girl students and female

teachers in various schools in Delhi have increased during the last one year;

(b) if so, what is the total number of such cases reported so far;

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard and whether Government are considering to launch a Helpline to protect the interest of girl students and women teachers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **NGOs assisting the Ministry of HRD**

2129. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the help of NGOs is taken to make all programmes under the Ministry a success;

(b) if so, whether NGOs working for the past several years are treated as a new organisation every year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the criteria for selection of NGOs by the Ministry?

#### **Gender bias**

2130. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints of gender bias and harassment of women employees have been received in the recent past;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during last one year; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to check this menace?

#### **Mushrooming coaching institutions**

2131. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent mushrooming of coaching institutions like FITJEE, PIE, etc., in the capital;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the recent press reports revealing their manipulations in computing their results/output and thereby misleading the general public;

(c) whether these institutions are functioning on purely business/profit lines, amassing huge money and showing little concern towards the career of aspirant children;

(d) if so, what action Government propose to check fleecing of general public by such coaching institutions; and

(e) the regulatory mechanism which Government propose in this regard?

#### **Teaching work by KV principals**

2132. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that minimum hours for performing teaching work by principals of the Kendriya Vidyalayas have been laid out;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in practice the principals never come to classrooms for teaching even one class owing to this connivance with other officers of the Division and it is only reflected in the time table; and

(d) whether complaints have been received against the principals of Jaipur

division and other division during the year 2000-2001 and if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

#### **Foreign language teaching institutes**

2133. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reputed foreign language teaching institutes in the country functioning under his Ministry and the source of their funding;

(b) whether his Ministry has plans to set up any new foreign language institutes in the country; and

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has requested to set up one such institute in that State, in view of the growth of information technology in the State; if so, the details thereof?

#### **Harassment of women**

†2134. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a kind of mental disease is increasing among women due to non-compliance of laws brought forth by Government to prevent harassment of women and to bring uniformity in the society;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to make any policy to ensure strict compliance of laws relating to crime against women, making provision in the judicial system for early punishment to those found guilty, to make laws relating to domestic violence on women and to create a feeling of self respect and consciousness in the society?

#### **Total literacy in Rajasthan**

2135. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount released for education under "Total Literacy Mission" in Rajasthan during the last three years, till date;

(b) the total number of persons made fully literate in the State, district-wise, during the said period; and

(c) the details of targets fixed by Government for State during the Tenth Five Year Plan period, as compared to Ninth Five Year Plan period, which have actually been achieved/fulfilled?

#### **Excesses against Women**

2136. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidence of excesses, rape and exploitation against women working in public, Government and private organisations in urban and rural areas and in the households, throughout the country, is constantly on the increase;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the schemes worked out by Government to strengthen the women folks, mentally and socially *vis-a-vis* men, and to fight the excesses?

#### **Vocational education**

†2137. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.