

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the May 22, 2006/Jyaistha 1, 1928 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Development of North Eastern Region; Food Processing Industries;
Human Resource Development; Law and Justice; Mines; Minority Affairs;
Non-Conventional Energy Sources; Ocean Development; Power;
Science and Technology; Social Justice and Empowerment;
Tribal Affairs; Women and Child Development)

Total number of questions—155

NLCPR and NEC schemes

3796. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to open the State-wise wings to deal with the matters relating to NLCPR and NEC schemes to quickly resolve the procedural paraphernalia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the alternatives, if any; and

(d) the steps to be initiated by the Ministry to dispel all sorts of barriers in the way in the sanctioning and completion of schemes?

NERAMAC projects in NE

3797. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects run by the

North Eastern Region Agricultural and Marketing Corporation in different States of the North-East;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Pineapple juice concentration plant at Nalkata of Tripura has been on the wane;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the pineapple producers of Tripura cannot have remunerative prices for pineapple, as North Eastern Region Agricultural and Marketing Corporation does not procure it in time; and

(d) the remedial measures contemplated and the time-frame for it?

Funds for expansion of food processing sector

3798. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Exim Bank of India has recommended three development funds for the expansion of food processing sector;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether appropriate action has been taken to set up funds;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Network of food processing industries

3799. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

- (a) the details of steps being taken by Government to set up the network of food processing industries in hilly and tribal regions;
- (b) the steps being taken to train the farmers particularly the women in these areas, into food processing techniques;
- (c) the steps being taken to provide financial, technical and marketing support to such enterprises located in isolated areas;
- (d) whether an institutionalized mechanism has been set up to coordinate with the State Governments; and
- (e) whether the State Government agencies have been identified to ensure efficient delivery of such initiatives, if so, the details thereof?

Policy for private sector investment

3800. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have conceived any policy to attract private investment in food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the policy;

(c) the response from private sector so far;

(d) the number of industries coming up and the amount of capital they are bringing in, State-wise; and

(e) the concession being provided by Government to these private players?

Incentives to food processing sector

3801. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are providing incentives to food processing sector by way of better infrastructure, early completion of irrigation projects, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government are aiming at a better farm sector growth for the rabi season as foodgrain prospects in the Kharif season is not satisfactory;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government had held discussions with the farm sector representatives recently; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

Appointment of Chairmen of Sanskrit Vidyalyayas/Vidyapeeths

†3802. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of guidelines for appointing the Chairmen of Sanskrit Vidyalyayas/Vidyapeeths;
- (b) whether appointing the learned individuals only as Chairmen has been the policy in this regard;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the number of Vidyalayas/Vidyapeeths wherein the persons other than Sanskrit scholars have been appointed as Chairmen; and

(d) the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Teacher-student ratio in DCE

3803. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi College of Engineering has not been able to meet the requirement of teacher-student ratio as laid down by All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE);

(b) the number of students on the college rolls as on 1st April, 2006 and the actual number of teachers (excluding post graduate and Ph.D. students engaged in teaching work) as against the sanctioned strength; and

(c) the steps proposed to meet the stipulated requirement and by when the same is likely to be achieved?

Setting up of IIT research parks

3804. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up IIT research parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States where such parks are to be set up;

(d) whether a number of State Governments have requested the Central Government for setting up of such parks;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by Government in this regard?

Schools covered by EDUSAT

3805. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and Private aided primary schools included under EDUSAT Project under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Programme, district-wise in the State of Karnataka;

(b) whether Government are planning to extend this project to all the districts;

(c) if so, the time-frame stipulated for this project; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Faculty strength of IGNOU

3806. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the faculty strength of IGNOU;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the publications of the IGNOU are outsourced despite the presence of sizeable faculty;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken for the faculty development?

Primary education in Tamil Nadu

3807. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of primary education in

Tamil Nadu as a result of implementation of welfare schemes like free distribution of text books, free education and Mid-day Meal Scheme; and

(b) the time by when the target of cent per cent literacy is likely to be achieved?

Recruitment of Punjabi Teachers

3808. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Punjabi language under the scheme of recruitment of Language Teachers;

(b) the number of Punjabi Teachers appointed in each State;

(c) the proposals pending in his Ministry; and

(d) the steps Government would take in these States for teaching Punjabi Language considering the fact that Punjabi is second language in Delhi and Haryana?

Malnutrition among children

3809. SHRI MANOHAR GAJANAN JOSHI:

SHRI C. PERUMAL:

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

(a) whether 5-7 crore children are suffering from malnutrition in the country according to a report submitted by UNICEF;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 50 per cent of urban children suffer from malnutrition;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken to contain the same?

Campus of Singapore University in the country

3810. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Singapore University proposes to set up its campus in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this University also proposes to set up such a campus at other places in the country especially in the Orissa State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Education in areas of concentration of Muslim population

3811. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) the steps being taken to improve the quality and spread of primary schools in the areas of concentration of Muslim population;

(b) the current teacher-student ratio in the primary schools located in such areas and the steps being taken to improve it;

(c) the steps being taken to improve the educational infrastructure in such areas;

(d) whether the financial liabilities are to be shared between Central and State Governments in this regard; and

(e) how would such areas of concentration of Muslim population be identified and by when?

Amount provided for mid-day meal

†3812. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) the State-wise amount provided for mid-day-meal being provided in the schools with the help of Central Government during 2006-07 and to what extent it is more than that provided during the last year;

(b) whether Government have issued any guidelines to ensure that the children get nutritious and complete food in schools;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when Government would issue necessary guide-lines for the same; and

(d) the authorities responsible for the quality of mid-day meal being provided to the children in the schools?

(d) if so, the details of action taken in this regard so far with results thereof and the steps to be taken to boost the morale?

Percentage of literacy of males and females

3814. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:
SHRI MATILAL SARKAR:

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

(a) the percentage of literacy of males and females in different States and Union Territories during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) the average percentage of literacy at the national level for males and females during 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to mitigate this gap?

Filling up vacancies in NBB

3813. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee constituted by Government to review the working of National Bal Bhavan 2002 recommended that recommendations of SIU should not be applied routinely for a creative organization like NBB and recommended filling of vacant posts immediately;

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon so far in respect of home management unit of NBB;

(c) whether Government are aware of wide spaced discontentment amongst staff for not filling up of vacant posts for last five years; and

Corruption in IGNOU

3815. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint have been received by Government in respect of irregularities/corruption in the IGNOU;

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against the defaulting officials;

(c) whether Distance Education Council (DEC) of IGNOU is a statutory body of the Government of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government have any proposal to make Distance Education Council as an independent body to look

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

after the Open Distance Learning (ODL) system in the country?

IITs and IIMs in Punjab

3816. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no institute like Indian Institute of Technology or Indian Institute of Management in Punjab;

(b) whether any request has been received from the Government of Punjab for establishment of such institutes in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

Course in design by IITs

3817. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IITs have planned to start a four year course in design;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal;

(c) the status of this demand from IITs;

(d) whether Government have not given clearance to such proposals; and

(e) the reasons for neglecting IITs in such matters and the delays?

Utilization of services of IIM graduates

3818. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a graduate

student of IIM, Bangalore has been offered US \$ 193,000 salary by a London-based company and some other students of IIM have been offered lucrative salaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the country is not in a position to utilize the services of IIM graduates for the benefit of the country for which it has spent lots of money in training them; and

(d) Government's plan in this regard?

Upgradation of CIEFL into a Central University

3819. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to upgrade the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad, into a Central University;

(b) if so, whether Union Government are actively considering to set up or upgrade a university in Uttar Pradesh on this level; and

(c) if so, the reasons for discrimination with Uttar Pradesh?

Study material borrowed by IGNOU

3820. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: SHRI DARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports in print media regarding "IGNOU being under a cloud for borrowing study materials" affecting career of over 3.5 lac BCA and MCA students of IGNOU, who have passed out since 1995

and may now find that their degrees hold no merit;

(b) if so, the reasons for IGNOU not developing its own study material for the students for the last ten years; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take so as to ensure that students do not suffer because of the University's actions?

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research

3821. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to set up more such Institutes to boost research in basic science;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of the States where these institutes are likely to be set up, location-wise?

Nationalisation of entrance examination system

3822. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that experts had submitted a recommendation regarding nationalization of the entrance examination system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these experts had conveyed that the quality of education in Deemed Universities is sub-standard; and

(d) if so, the steps taken on the above recommendation?

Promotion of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

3823. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are promoting 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' (SSA), *i.e.* universalisation of primary education in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with allocation made for the purpose and the results achieved during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether there have been reports of large scale misuse and misappropriation of funds meant for the SSA;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken to strengthen the system;

(e) whether it is now proposed to universalise the secondary education in the country; and

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

Deemed University status to Institutions

3824. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission (UGC) recommended many institutions for the "Deemed University" status during April, 2006;

(b) if so, the details of such institutions and the status of above recommendation;

(c) if so, whether the approval of AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) is sought by UGC before recommending the Deemed University status;

(d) if so, the total number of Deemed Universities during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and category-wise; and

(e) the criteria, if any, in detail for granting Deemed University status to an institute?

Implementation of Noon Meal Scheme

3825. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether order of the Supreme Court in the year 2001 for Universalisation of Noon Meal Scheme (NMS) had been implemented in all States;

(b) if so, the details including number of children and others benefited with the scheme and funds allotted and utilised under the scheme for the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and category-wise; and

(c) if not, the reason in detail for not implementing it in all the States and the steps taken to implement the scheme as on today?

Coverage of SCs, STs and OBCs under SSA

3826. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefits of universalisation of education through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan have not percolated down to the marginal social groups (SCs/STs/OBCs) etc. as per the survey conducted by Government;

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

(c) what is the action plan of Government to control the rate of drop-outs especially at the primary School level?

Training bureaucrats in managerial skills

3827. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IIM, Ahmedabad proposes to train bureaucrats in managerial skills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this exposure would address the menace of corruption in Government corridors?

Intake of IITs and Institutes of Technology

3828. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than three lakh aspirants appeared for the IIT-JEE to secure a place in IITs, and Institutes of Technology all over India with an aggregate intake of a mere 4935 seats;

(b) whether Government have considered augmenting intake capacities of the IITs/Institutes of Technology commensurate with the demand for such seats;

(c) whether the Regional Engineering Colleges which are still not upgraded to IIT level would be expanded; and

(d) whether Government would consider strengthening education/training facilities for operatives in basic skills through ITIs?

Kendriya Vidyalayas in North-East

3829. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas set up and working in the North East;

(b) the number of posts of teachers and auxiliary staff sanctioned in each of these Vidyalayas and the number of these posts filled up;

(c) whether Government propose to fill the existing vacancies by recruiting adhoc teachers locally;

(d) if so, the steps being taken in that direction; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Purpose of Kendriya Vidyalayas

3830. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Vidyalayas have been set up by Government in the country for educating the children of Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the yardstick fixed by Government for fulfilment of conditions regarding which wards of such employees will be admitted;

(c) the number of KVs functioning in Assam and the number of students studying in each class of these KVs;

(d) the number of the students who are children of Central Government employees and those who are not;

(e) the professional break-up of guardians of students who are not the children of Central Government employees; and

(f) what is the criteria based on which the students mentioned at (e) above were admitted?

Navodaya Vidyalayas in A.P.

3831. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Jawahar Navodaya

Vidyalayas in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the details of districts where Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas have not been accepted by the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of full-fledged JNVs with two sections in each class up to class XII in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise; and

(d) the details of norms for opening up of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas?

Improvement of vocational education

3832. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Punjab have submitted various projects/schemes, duly formulated as per requirement and instructions of the Government of India, to Central Government for quality improvement of Vocational Education in the State for approval and release of funds;

(b) if so, the details of the projects and whether they have since been approved and funds sanctioned; and

(c) the total amount released during the same period, year-wise?

One computer to each student scheme

3833. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission proposed that one computer to each student in the schools should be given;

(b) if so, the stage of the implementation of this proposal;

(c) the allocation of funds for this purpose; and

(d) whether Government will give the scheme priority over providing basic facilities in the schools?

Utilization of IIM funds to set up new IIMs

3834. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Institutes of Management have been allowed to keep a corpus amount of upto Rs. 50 crores;

(b) if so, the numbers of IIMs that have a Corpus amount of over Rs. 50 crores; and

(c) whether Government would plan such IIMs which have a Corpus Funds above the authorised limit, to use them in setting up of new IIMs in country?

Transfer of fund allocation power to AICTE

3835. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to transfer the power of fund allocation from National Institute of Technology to All India Council of Technical Education;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any provision exists in the Memorandum of Association of NITs for transferring the fund allocation; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that AICTE is a statutory body and it is able to allocate funds impartially?

Kendriya Vidyalaya at Bastar

‡3836. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in construction of a building of Kendriya Vidyalaya at Bastar;

(b) whether it is a fact that for the lack of adequate place, the curricular and extra curricular facilities which should be provided are not being provided; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made for taking urgent steps for construction of the said building?

Assistance under National Nutrition Mission

3837. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned Rs. 420 lakhs towards additional Central assistance programme in Adilabad and Mahboobnagar Districts of Andhra Pradesh under National Nutrition Mission 2003-2004 *vide* order F.No. 54(i)/PF1/2003-348, dated 31st March, 2004;

(b) if so, the reasons for such delay even in releasing the funds for which sanction order had already been issued;

(c) whether Government would assure of releasing this already sanctioned amount immediately; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Extension of mid-day meal scheme

3838. SHRINANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested Union Government for release of Rs. 98.41 crores to extend the Mid-day Meal Programme upto 10th class students in the State and whether further proposals have been submitted for release of Rs. 20-34 crores to continue the Mid-day Meals Programme during summer vacations in drought affected areas in the State;

(b) if so, whether Government would assure of releasing the funds at the earliest; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Basic Science Institute

3839. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a basic Science Institute; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Criteria for appointment of teachers and professors

†3840. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to formulate new criteria for reconsideration with regard to the appointment of teachers/professors in the colleges throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Corruption in institutions under his Ministry

†3841. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rampant corruption and irregularities in the institutions working under his Ministry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several Public Interest Litigations are pending in different High Courts against the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to make the functioning of all the departments of his Ministry transparent; and

(e) the details of cases pending in different courts against his Ministry?

Amount sanctioned for Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla

†3842. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by Government during the last three years for Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla, Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether any auditing has been carried out with respect to use of funds provided to the said Mahavidyalaya by Government;

(c) if so, whether appropriate use of sanctioned amount has been made; and

(d) whether Government propose to sanction funds for the construction of building for the said Mahavidyalaya?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Yoga education centre

3843. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that University Grants Commission has recently decided to set up Yoga Education Centre for benefiting the students health and social activities at various Universities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for promoting Yoga education at various school level?

Vacancies in various Vidyapeeths

3844. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 50,000 teachers and allied posts lying vacant in various Vidyapeeths of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when these posts would be filled up;

(c) whether Government have issued any instructions for filling up these teachers posts in Vidyapeeths of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Colleges registered for B. Pharmacy

3845. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of colleges registered with the AICTE which have B. Pharmacy degree education;

(b) the State-wise distribution of such colleges; and

(c) the number of seats available in such colleges all over the country?

Engineering colleges registered with AICTE

3846. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engineering colleges registered with the AICTE in the country;

(b) the State-wise distribution of such engineering colleges as on date;

(c) the number of seats available every year from all these colleges; and

(d) the assistance Government would give to these colleges to upgrade themselves comprehensively?

Monitoring Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

3847. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have caused any monitoring of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, about the success achieved in realizing the targets fixed under it;

(b) if so, the State-wise achievement of the targets and parameters contemplated thereunder indicating specifically how far the socially backward classes—SCs/STs/OBCs and minorities have been benefited by the Abhiyan; and

(c) the State-wise expenditure incurred and the number of boys and girls who were benefited thereby?

Teacher-Pupil ratio

3848. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the teacher-pupil-ratio at primary, upper-primary, secondary, higher secondary and at college level;

(b) whether Government are satisfied with the ratios;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken thereon;

(d) whether Government also propose to bring in any legislation for fixing any strict code of control for teachers particularly to fix a definite responsibility on them to ensure quality education;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Quality education in Government schools

†3849. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to provide high quality education to the children of Government schools as is being imparted to the children of private schools;

(b) if so, the date from which Government are going to implement the said scheme;

(c) the amount of expenditure on this scheme; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to make Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas a role model, if so, the details thereof?

New schemes for passing exams

3850. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering to abolish the passing of

examinations in "3rd division and grace marks facility" in the country;

(b) if so, by when such a decision is expected to be taken and initiated; and

(c) how far such a decision shall improve the education standard in country?

Deemed universities in the country

3851. SHRI T. T. V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of deemed universities in the country, State-wise showing the year in which deemed university status was accorded;

(b) the courses and the number of seats per course as approved by the University Grants Commission for the deemed universities in Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether Government are aware that many deemed universities in Tamil Nadu are conducting engineering/technical courses without the approval of All India Council for Technical Education; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to save the future of students?

Scrapping the National Eligibility Test

3852. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee headed by Planning Commission member, B. Munekar has recommended scrapping the National Eligibility Test (NET) which is presently mandatory for appointment of teachers in colleges and universities;

(b) if so, whether the recommendation has been accepted; if so, from which date;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the number of NET scholars not so far appointed and whether they would be absorbed against future vacancies; and

(d) the number of posts of college and university teachers proposed to be filled up during 2006-07 and the number out of them reserved for various categories?

Serving hot-cooked meal to children

3853. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the mid-day meal scheme, children are to be served hot-cooked meal;

(b) if so, the number of tribal districts of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh where it is being done;

(c) if not, what is being done actually; and

(d) by when the hot-cooked meal will be served to children under the scheme in the tribal districts of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh?

Funds for women and child development schemes

3854. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds earmarked by Government for women and child development schemes during 2006-07 as compared to the year 2005-06, till date;

(b) the details of the funds allocated/ utilized and balance left, till date (State-wise and Year-wise) particularly in the State of Maharashtra and Punjab;

(c) the details of new schemes likely to be undertaken during the Five Year Plan period in this regard;

(d) whether any funds were also provided by the World Bank, UNESCO and other International Financial Institutions for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof Institution-wise?

Establishment of more colleges for technical courses

3855. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AICTE is encouraging the establishment of more colleges having technical courses and degrees like B. Pharmacy in the country;

(b) the extent to which the AICTE simplified such processes so as to enable our youth in distant areas and rural areas to have easy access to such courses;

(c) whether the AICTE is taking any steps to give preferential treatment in clearing and processing applications from small towns and rural areas; and

(d) the number of applications pending as on date from various colleges in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh for B. Pharmacy degree courses and colleges?

Encouraging the sports

3856. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission has any schemes to encourage sports in various institutions all over the country;

(b) if so, the details of any specific UGC

scheme to encourage sports in educational institutions;

(c) whether there are any scholarships offered to students by the UGC;

(d) the manner in which the UGC evolves new schemes and incentives to ensure that students in universities give importance to physical education and sports, etc; and

(e) the steps proposed in this regard?

Strength of judges in Jharkhand High Court

†3857. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider the present sanctioned strength of judges in Jharkhand High Court as sufficient;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the present sanctioned strength of judges; and

(c) the criterion for fixing the number of judges?

Cases disposed off by mediation cells

3858. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a "Mediation Cell" at Tees Hazari Courts has disposed off 234 cases in November and December out of the 532 cases received by it; and

(b) if so, whether such Mediation Cells are proposed to be opened in some selected District Courts in the country so that outstanding cases could be amicably settled through this method?

Protection of whistle-blowers

3859. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission of India, which had been asked to submit its views on the proposed Judges (Enquiry) Bill, 2005 has suggested a whistle-blower clause to protect those who complaint about judges and full confidentiality of complaint proceedings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction to the suggestion made by the Law Commission of India?

Power of Election Commission under Article 324

3860. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of matters which fall exclusively within the legislative competence of Parliament are covered by the Election Commission of India while issuing orders, guidelines, instructions etc. under article 324 of the Constitution of India;

(b) if so, whether Government have brought these facts to the notice of the Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Increase in retirement age of Judges in High Courts

3861. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

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

(a) whether any representation has been received from organization for increasing retirement age of Chief Judges of High Courts to 65 from 62 years as in the case of Judges of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are proposing any legislation in this regards?

Appointment of women judges

3862. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are advocating the need to appoint more women judges to High Courts, also as Chief Justices, to ensure speedy delivery of justice to women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present strength of women judges in each High Court;

(d) whether Government are also making efforts to render a women victim quick, speedy, cheaper and effective justice; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Connecting the district courts with prisons through video conferencing

3863. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several district courts across the country have been connected to district prisons through video conferencing, for questioning of prisoners;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of implementation of the programme under which the said video links are being set up;

(c) whether the new system will do away with the practice of prisoners being transported to courts' premises for routine questioning and other matters; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Establishment of women courts

†3864. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women courts constituted to deal with the cases of atrocities on women as on date, location-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to constitute women courts in some more States also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Benches of High Courts

†3865. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain benches of some of the High Courts in the country are not functioning;

(b) if so, the number of such benches, High Court-wise, as on date;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have received memoranda/requests in the past for setting up benches of some of the High Courts in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of the High Court benches for which requests to restart have been received by Government; and

(f) the action taken by Government in this regard?

Steps for improvement in judicial system

†3866. SHRIBALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding corruption in judicial system have been received;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held on it in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts organized recently; and

(c) whether there was concurrence in this Conference on taking some substantial steps for hi-tech courts and prompt justice; if so, the details thereof?

Filling up of vacancies of judges

3867. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court passed an order on the 5th April that State Government and Union Territories should draw out a schedule for timely filling up of vacancies of judges in their respective regions and noted that it is absolutely necessary to evolve a mechanism to speedily determine and fill vacancies of judges at all levels;

(b) whether Government have considered the order of the Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the steps taken to fill all the vacancies of judges in various courts; and

(d) by when the process is likely to be completed?

Identification of linguistic minorities

3868. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified linguistic minorities in various States; if so, State-wise details of such minorities;

(b) the nodal agency to identify such linguistic minorities and the parameters for identifying them;

(c) the initiatives taken to promote cultures, customs and languages of linguistic minorities;

(d) whether an institutionalized mechanism has been set up to coordinate efforts with the State Governments in implementing such initiatives; if so, the outcome of such a mechanism; and

(e) whether the likely financial obligations have been shared between the Centre and the States?

No subsidy system in solar power usage

3869. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the solar home lighting systems have since been fine-tuned to replace kerosene in rural households thereby eliminating subsidy and cross

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

subsidy worth thousands of crores of rupees, adulteration of fuel and finally smoke and pollution in rural homes;

(b) whether the projects sponsored by UNEP and TERI in Karnataka attempt to replace subsidy in solar power systems with entrepreneurial initiative and short-term assistance;

(c) whether under this scheme vendors offer a menu of lighting devices and maintenance service backed by micro-credit progressively aligned to commercial rates; and

(d) if so, the steps to popularize this no-subsidy system in solar power usage?

Workshop on 'Renewable Energy Options'

3870. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR
SANGHI:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had organized a workshop on 'Renewable Energy Options' for BIMSTEC and ASEAN countries in December, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow up action taken so far in pursuance of the decisions taken in the said workshop?

Energy generation from non-conventional energy sources

3871. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target of energy generation from non-conventional energy sources to be achieved under current Plan and what is the current level that has been achieved;

(b) the average per unit cost of generating energy from non-conventional sources; and

(c) whether Government plan to bring down cost of generation of such power particularly in view of recommendations in Mid Term Appraisal of current Plan to reduce subsidy?

Power generation from non-conventional energy sources

†3872. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether power is being generated from non-conventional energy sources in the country, especially in rural areas;

(b) the extent of power being generated, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government have explored the possibility of power generation from non-conventional energy sources especially in rural areas?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Implementation of solar energy schemes

3873. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes and programmes being implemented under solar energy programme by Government in the country, particularly in the NER;

(b) the details of criteria/formula and guidelines adopted by Government to provide loans, grants and other assistance for the said purposes;

(c) the names of the schemes being implemented directly by Government/public undertakings/private undertakings in the NER under the Solar Energy Programme during the last three years and till date; and

(d) the details of loans, financial grants allocated and sanctioned and the amount actually utilized by Government during the last three years, State-wise?

Energy from non-conventional energy sources in Uttaranchal

†3874. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttaranchal where energy is proposed to be derived from non-conventional resources; and

(b) the district-wise number of such villages that have been provided with such energy?

Installation of solar energy

3875. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal from

Uttaranchal Government to install solar energy lights on the pilgrimage route of Hem Kunt (Uttaranchal);

(b) if so, the details of areas to be covered and how many lights are to come up;

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed; and

(d) whether Government will cover the entire stretch of Gobind Ghat-Gobind Dham-Hem Kunt route?

Supply of electricity in tribal areas

†3876. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems being faced in supply of electricity in the tribal areas of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details of grants given to these States during 2005-06 for the supply of electricity in these States through non-conventional energy sources?

Development of solar and wind energy

3877. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the development of non-conventional energy sources in the country, particularly the solar and wind energies during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereon;

(c) whether any action plan has been chalked out to harness solar, wind and ocean energies to meet the huge power supply needs of the country and at the same time save the environment; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements likely to be made thereon?

Power generation from industrial waste

3878. SHRI MANOHAR GAJANAN JOSHI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to generate 1000 MW from industrial waste; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Use of alternative fuel resources

†3879. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rising prices of oil in international market has adversely affected the economic growth rate and foreign exchange reserve of India;

(b) whether any bio-diesel based system is under consideration in this regard;

(c) whether the technology and vegetation for manufacturing bio-diesel is available or could be made available in the country; and

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

Power plant project

3880. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how many power plant project proposals are pending for clearance;

(b) how long are they pending; and

(c) the normal time taken for giving clearance?

Establishment of Tsunami Warning System

3881. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the establishment of Tsunami Warning System in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof including location and the likely date of their functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons for slow progress therein despite experiencing such huge loss of life and property?

Development of coastal areas

3882. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of coastal area in the State of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala and Orissa;

(b) whether these coastal areas can be developed for the population residing near the sea-side;

(c) whether Government are aware of serious difficulties and disabilities faced by the Gujarat fishermen from the Pakistani Marine Security Agencies; and

(d) the action proposed by Government to protect life and business of fishermen?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Revival and restructuring of Dabhol Power Plant

3883. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of revival and restructuring of Dabhol Power Plant in Maharashtra;
- (b) the estimated cost of power with Naphtha as the fuel and with LNG as fuel;
- (c) whether source of LNG supply has been identified and firmed up; and
- (d) the details of tax concessions and tax waivers and the amount granted to Ratnagiri Gas and Power Ltd. formed after restructuring of Dabhol plant?

Coal shortage at NTPC unit in Ramagundam

3884. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the 2600 MW National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) unit at Ramagundam is on the verge of collapse due to coal shortage;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure continuous supply of coal to this unit?

Survey on power theft

3885. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have conducted any survey regarding failure of the States to check power theft;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof along with the names of States with minimum availability of electricity per family in percentage terms;

(c) whether Government are according priority to such States; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by Government in this regard?

Power generation with smokeless coal

†3886. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working on a scheme (Future gen) to produce power with smokeless coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also taking help of private sector for the same; and

(d) if so, the details and expected cost thereof?

Action plan for rural electrification in Tamil Nadu

3887. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate an action plan for rural electrification in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance has accorded financial approval to the said plan;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the said plan is likely to be implemented?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Subsidy and price of power

†3888. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States besides providing subsidy have resorted to increasing the consumer sale price of power to reduce the commercial losses of the power sector in the recent years;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the percentage of increase in subsidy from the year 2004-05 till early 2006-07 to each State; and

(d) the percentage of increase in consumer price of power during the said period by each State?

Power generation target in the Tenth Five Year Plan

†3889. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is not possible to achieve the target set for generation of power during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the shortfall of quantum of power estimated in the target set for the same;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the target of installing extra power generation capacity during the Tenth Five Year Plan was less as compared to the target during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

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

Shortage of power in Northern States

†3890. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power shortage of around 4500 MW is being estimated during the current summer season in North-Indian States;

(b) if not, Government's estimate thereof and the States facing shortage of power and estimate of such shortage (in MW); and

(c) the extent of decrease or increase of power in each State in comparison to the same during the last summer season?

Financial assistance by PFC to thermal power stations in UP

3891. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Finance Corporation of India proposes to fund certain thermal power stations located in UP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Corporation also proposes to finance certain power projects in the Orissa State to improve the power position of this backward region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Investments proposed by NHPC

3892. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) proposes to invest Rs. 3,312 crores capital expenditure for the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Corporation plans to add 900 MW of hydroelectric capacity during the above period; and

(d) if so, the details of the projects that are proposed to be taken up in Orissa under the above plan?

Rehabilitation of families affected by Tehri Dam

†3893. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons displaced due to Tehri Dam who have been allotted lands in New Tehri town area;

(b) the number of displaced persons who have been rehabilitated so far in Boradi and Kulana area;

(c) whether schools, hospitals, provision of water, roads and bridges have been constructed in the villages where displaced persons have been rehabilitated;

(d) if not, by when these would be constructed and all basic facilities would be made available; and

(e) the amount of money provided to the State Government by the Central Government till March, 2006 to rehabilitate the displaced persons of Tehri dam properly?

Grid discipline and load management on Northern Grid

3894. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Northern parts of the country are reeling under long power cuts and are short of more than 4500 MW of power;

(b) whether it is a fact that northern grid discipline has become a major problem despite directives by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) to 9 Northern States that are overdrawing; and

(c) if so, the steps his Ministry has taken, till date, to maintain grid discipline as well as load management in northern parts of the country to avoid any major breakdown of the power transmission network?

Time given for paying electricity bills

3895. SHRI DHARAM PAL
SABHARWAL:
SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN
SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumers are not given sufficient time by various State Governments or electricity boards/

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

authorities to pay their electricity bills and sometimes even a day's time is given for the purpose;

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

(c) whether Government propose to instruct all State Governments to ensure that at least fifteen days time is given to all consumers especially small farmers to pay their dues?

Setting up of Hydro power project in North Eastern Region

3896. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA

TAIMUR:

SHRI LALIT SURI:

DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. is exploring the possibility of setting up five major hydro power projects for generating 5000 MW in North Eastern Region;

(b) whether three projects out of them have already been identified in Arunachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, whether the locations for the remaining two hydro projects have been identified; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when these projects are expected to be commissioned?

Removal of Cap for mega power projects

3897. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to remove the cap for mega size power

projects and also remove the tax structure for captive power plants to bring on par with units of other power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Execution of mega power projects in Andhra Pradesh

3898. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two mega power projects with a total installed capacity of 3,700 MW are being set up in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a special purpose vehicle-Andhra Pradesh Power Development Company, has been formed to facilitate fast track execution of the project; and

(c) the progress achieved so far in this direction?

Demand for Power

3899. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated demand of power in the country by the year 2005, State-wise, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the existing power plants are likely to be able to meet the power demand and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total power generating capacity of the existing power plants at present, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested for more share of power from Central Pool; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Power generation capacity in Andhra Pradesh

3900. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in power generation capacity of each power station in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the power generation capacity of those power stations in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Target for electrification of villages

†3901. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced a target to electrify all the villages till the 31st March, 2009 under the Rajiv Gandhi Vidyutikaran Yojana; and

(b) if so, the details of achievements made so far?

Increase in per capita availability of electricity

†3902. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed a target to increase the per capita availability of electricity upto more than one thousand units alongwith meeting all the demands pertaining to electricity, meeting the shortage of electricity in the peak hour and maintaining reserved availability by 2012 under the National Power Policy which has been announced; and

(b) if so, details thereof and its outcome so far?

Trans-Asian Power Grid

3903. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for establishment of a Trans-Asia power grid, to transfer surplus power from Central Asian countries to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government consider such a project to be feasible; and

(d) if so, the details of any decision taken so far in this regard?

Funds for power project in Tripura

3904. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government or ONGC have made any allotment of fund for the gas-based thermal power project at Palatana in Tripura for the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the problems due to which power project of Monarchak of Tripura has been abandoned abruptly in a state of satisfactory progress of works incurring several crores of rupees; and

(e) by when the project of Palatana is scheduled to generate power?

Power generation capacity in the country

3905. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the break up of power-generation capacity in the country on the basis of method of generation such as hydel, thermal, nuclear and so on;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the method on which the unit price of electricity is calculated; and

(c) whether Government will consider giving electricity at concessional rate of States that give free/subsidized power for agriculture?

Commercial losses in power sector

†3906. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Commercial losses in State power sector is on continuous increase from the year 2004-05 till 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the commercial losses during the each year of the said period;

(c) whether efforts for improving distribution system in power producing units in State power sector have been made during the said period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the additional amount invested therein?

Survey of Dhauli Ganga Phase II and Gauri Ganga Phase I by NHPC

†3907. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NHPC has decided to survey the Dhauli Ganga Phase-II and Gauri Ganga Phase-I; and

(b) if so, by when the survey work of these projects is likely to be commenced?

Signing of MoUs for setting-up new power plants

3908. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many MoUs have been signed between State Governments and private sector to set up power plants in private and joint sector during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof such as capacity of each project, location, date of completion, feeder areas, cost of project, profit sharing, etc.;

(c) the States which have no power project of their own and are fully dependent on outside supply; and

(d) the steps being taken to provide them power plants?

Privatisation of power plants

†3909. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government now propose to privatise power generation plants after privatizing the power distribution sector in Delhi;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are selling power generation plants to multinational companies at throw-away prices and the people involved in this act are making the money?

Signing of framework protocol with US for FutureGen power plants

3910. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed a

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

framework protocol with the US to develop power plants not dependent on LNG or emission-free coal;

(b) if so, whether FutureGen project will set up 275 MW plant using coal conversion technology to gasify coal, oxygen and steam to produce hydrogen-rich synthetic gas;

(c) whether Government have secured participation in the \$950 million FutureGen projects;

(d) if so, the main features of the proposed plants and by when these plants are likely to be undertaken; and

(e) whether Government's contribution will be \$10million?

Construction of Ultra Mega Power Projects

3911. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals with Government for construction of Ultra Mega Power Projects;

(b) if so, how many and in which States;

(c) whether it is a fact that the beneficiary States giving an undertaking to privatise the distribution sector in a stipulated time is precondition for awarding the Ultra Mega Power Projects; and

(d) if so, the reaction from the said State Governments thereto?

India-US joint industry working group for bio-technology

3912. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India-US joint industry

working group for biotechnology has decided to prepare a comprehensive report in three areas—transfer of biomaterials, clinical research and new product development and innovation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard has been reached between India and US; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement biotech report in this regard?

Transfer of bio-diesel technology for women SHGs

3913. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madhya Pradesh Government *vide* letter No. 989/CST/JDA/04 dated 5th July, 2004 have requested for transfer of technology for production of Bio-diesel from Jatropha so that Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) might get employment;

(b) by when Government would transfer this technology; and

(c) the details thereof?

Loans to drug companies for research and development work

†3914. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided loans to some drug companies for research and development work pertaining to medicines;

(b) if so, the names of such companies and the details of amount of loans; and

(c) the terms of repayment of these

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

loans and the companies which are unwilling to repay these loans?

Scheme of weighted average deduction

3915. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are Planning to scrap the Scheme of weighted average deduction of 150 per cent under Section 35 (2AB) of the Income Tax Act for R&D in Pharma Industry;

(b) if so, whether CAG report had indicted Pharma companies for fraudulent claims under the above scheme; and

(c) if so, the names of these companies?

Agreements on Science and Technology

3916. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Canada have decided to sign comprehensive agreements on science and technology to give a boost to research activities in both the countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to have another agreement with Canada for transfer of technology from laboratories?

Policy on Stem Cell research

3917. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of formulating a policy on Stem Cell research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India is taking any assistance or help from the US on Stem Cell research; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Short-fall in monsoon

3918. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department has predicted a shortfall in monsoon this year;

(b) if so, the estimated shortfall in rains this year;

(c) whether this shortfall in rains shall have an adverse affect on agriculture production in the country and particularly States where the shortfall in rains is expected;

(d) how far such a declaration of shortfall of rains shall have an adverse affect on the cost/price of agriculture products; and

(e) the efforts expected to be taken for an artificial rain in the country during that period?

Inclusion of castes in SC list

†3919. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision regarding inclusion of Mallah, Kevat, Vind and Dhimar castes in the list of Scheduled Caste;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have taken any steps to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

overcome causes of delay in taking the said decision; and

(c) if so, the dates on which these steps were taken along with the details of the steps taken?

Funds released for NGOs

3920. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released for various NGOs by Government for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, organization-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of categories of frauds and financial irregularities found so far with regard to functioning of NGOs;

(c) whether Government have adopted any remedial measures to curb such frauds and financial irregularities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Mechanism to monitor sanction of grants

3921. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism to check and verify the applications received in the Ministry for grants;

(b) the mechanism to monitor the activities of those who are getting grants from the Ministry; and

(c) the details of various schemes and projects for the welfare of SCs?

Discrimination of dalits

3922. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:
SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the practice of discrimination of dalits with regard to access to drinking water, entering temples and two-glass system in hotels is being practiced in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures the Ministry intend to take to create awareness among dalits and other communities?

Sanction of grants to voluntary organisations

†3923. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those new voluntary organizations engaged in welfare of disabled persons from Chhattisgarh which have been accorded sanction of grants during the last three years;

(b) the amount of grant given to them, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for non-inclusion of welfare organizations from Bilaspur district which are engaged in welfare of mentally challenged and speech impaired persons?

Addiction to liquor

3924. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

been drawn to the Supreme Court's reported observation that "Younger Generation" in this country is "getting more and more addicted to liquor" and to many it has not only become a "fashion" to consume but an "obsession";

(b) whether Supreme Court has also expressed its surprise that some States are "encouraging unrestricted trade of liquor" in the face of Article 47; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to enforce prohibition in consumption of intoxicating drinks/drugs when otherwise it is not enforceable through court of law?

Policy for welfare of disabled persons

3925. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any specific policy for the welfare of disabled persons in the country;

(b) whether Government have identified the number of disabled persons in the country;

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

(d) the details of financial assistance granted and the total amount utilized for implementation of the said schemes during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

Financial assistance for training of SC/ST students

3926. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial assistance is

granted to the State Governments/UTs for training SC/ST students for various All India Competitive Examinations and to impart special training in subjects like English, Mathematics and General Science to selected pre and post matriculation hostel students belonging to SC/ST;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds released during the last five years to State Governments/UTs, year-wise and State-wise, with special reference to Karnataka;

(c) whether only part-payments have been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the likely date by when the balance amount would be released?

Amendment to Disability (Equal Opportunity and Participation) Act

3927. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bill to amend the Disability (Equal Opportunity and Participation) Act, 1996 is pending in the Parliament for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has any proposal to pass the Bill in the Parliament in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Scheme for care of children in need

†3928. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated some schemes to take care

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

and to help destitute, vulnerable to exploitation, abandoned, orphan and litigation affected children in the country;

(b) the amount of grants released to Government of Chhattisgarh for these schemes each year during the last three years;

(c) the names of Government and non-Government organizations under these schemes engaged in providing shelter to the children living on roads in Chhattisgarh and other destitute children alongwith number of children who have been given shelter; and

(d) the details of achievements in this regard?

Recommendations made by NCOP

‡3929. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the date of the constitution of National Council for Older Persons (NCOP) under the National Policy on Older Persons and the details of the recommendations made by the Council during the last three years;

(b) the details of the recommendations accepted and rejected by Government;

(c) the amount provided for old age homes, day care centres and mobile medical centres under integrated programmes sanctioned for old persons; and

(d) the names of the recipient institutions alongwith the details of the amount provided to them?

Appointment of members for monitoring of grants

3930. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has appointed any non-official members to monitor or verify justification for sanction of grants;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their names and functions; and

(c) the outcome of such monitoring?

CBI enquiry against NGOs

‡3931. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recommended a C.B.I. enquiry against some Non-Government organisations of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of such NGOs;

(d) the schemes for which these NGOs have taken financial help;

(e) whether Government have also received such types of complaints against other NGOs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

Employment of SC, ST and OBC in private sector

3932. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the proportion of Scheduled

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes employed in the private sector;

(b) the steps taken by Government, so far, to increase the proportion of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes employed in the private sector; and

(c) the details of the proposals regarding affirmative action for the backward classes?

Grants to old-age home

‡3933. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government sanctions a grant of Rs. 3.79 lakh every year for subsistence of 25 old people in order to run old-age homes;

(b) whether this amount is not insufficient in view of the level of inflation at present;

(c) whether Government are considering to increase the aforesaid grant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Displacement of tribals in Andhra Pradesh

3934. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints about the displacement of tribals due to major irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated by his Ministry to safeguard the interests of tribals

in the areas which are coming under the 5th Schedule of the Constitution?

Percentage of tribal population

3935. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of tribal population in the country; and

(b) the various schemes under his Ministry to uplift the living standards of tribal population?

Ethnic clashes in Karbi-Anglong district of Assam

3936. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karbi-Anglong district of Assam comprise of members of Scheduled Tribes belonging to various ethnic identities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of persons killed, number of persons who suffered major physical injuries, houses burnt and volume of farm assets destroyed in the ethnic clashes in Karbi-Anglong since the 26th September, 2005;

(d) the details of relief and rehabilitation measures launched, if any, for the violence affected families; and

(e) the details of steps being taken, if any, for promotion of peace and harmony among different ethnic groups with a view to avoid recurrence of violent clashes among them in future?

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Request for grants by Gujarat

†3937. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:
Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) the subjects for which request for grant was made by the Government of Gujarat under section 275 (1) of the Constitution in the year 2005-06 alongwith the amount of grant sought;

(b) the amount of grant sanctioned out of the above; and

(c) the amount of grant released?

Development of STs in Gujarat

†3938. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:
Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the voluntary organisations that were provided grants during 2005-06 by Government for development of Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat alongwith the amount of grants provided; and

(b) the provision made to monitor the utilisation of the said grant?

Problems faced by tribal communities

3939. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:
Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) the various problems facing the tribal community in the country;

(b) the steps taken by Government to settle their problems; and

(c) whether Government have prepared any long-term plan in this regard?

Financial assistance to tribals

3940. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will
the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribals who have received financial assistance to set up economic enterprises from the Tribal Finance Corporation of Government of India;

(b) the figures for the last five years, year-wise, industry-wise, area-wise and State-wise; and

(c) how many of the tribals have become successful entrepreneurs in the last five years, State-wise and region-wise?

Presence of ANMS in ICDS

3941. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will
the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the success of ICDS, the presence of ANMS is necessary;

(b) the number of posts of ANMS lying vacant in the tribal districts of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to fill up these vacant posts and the time-frame fixed for filling up of these vacant posts?

Use of children as crowd

3942. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA
RAO: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND
CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government have banned the use of children as crowd at various public functions;

(b) if so, the details of Government's

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

views on using children for parades, meetings, welcoming VIP guests at institutions in municipalities, etc.;

(c) whether it is a fact that school children are facing brutal treatment due to becoming forced crowds for such events;

(d) the specific directions given to all State Governments not to use school children in this manner for any parade; and

(e) the steps proposed to monitor such rules?

Misuse of medical and genetic technology

3943. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA
ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the misuse of medical and genetic technology for elimination of female foetus is going up;

(b) whether Government are also aware that mobile vans are used for sex determination and medical termination of female foetus and unregistered clinics stealthily carry out sex determination tests;

(c) if so, the number of cases detected during the last one year, State-wise, on the misuse of medical and genetic technology; and

(d) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

Malnourished children in the country

3944. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to

UN Report, more than one third of malnourished children are in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that according to UN, at the current rate of progress, the millennium development goal to have abolition of child hunger by 2015 will not be realised till 2025; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Implementation of Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act

3945. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act recently passed by Parliament has come into force;

(b) if so, the names of State Governments which have started using the law;

(c) the number of investigations, inquiries made under the Act, State-wise; and

(d) the number of charge-sheets filed, State-wise?

Suspension of World Bank funds

3946. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has suspended funding scheme for welfare of women and child development;

(b) whether this is because of the irregular procurement of drugs and medicines required for the programme;

(c) if so, whether responsibility has been fixed for the same and the suspects are prosecuted against; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Practice of Sati

†3947. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of women becoming Sati still happen in our country;

(b) whether Government propose to enact any new laws to eradicate this practice completely; and

(c) if so, the outlines thereof?

Search of lost children

†3948. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Human Rights Commission has issued a report on the lost children in which it has been stated that every year about 11,000 children are lost in our country;

(b) if so, the efforts made by Government to search these children and to make provision for their education and for their employment; and

(c) whether Government have made any plan to rehabilitate those children?

Trafficking of girls in Haryana

3949. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that girls are being sold in different parts of Haryana; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to prevent such criminal activities?

Schemes for women and children

3950. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing Central schemes for the welfare of women and children in the country;

(b) the methods used to inform women about the existence of schemes meant for them;

(c) whether Government use the services of popular personalities to reach these schemes to the target group; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NEW DELHI;
The 16th May, 2006
Vaisakha 26, 1928 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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