RAJYA SABHA

List of Question for WRITTEN ANSWERS

to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on Tuesday, the July 23, 2002/Sravana 3, 1924 (Saka)

(Ministries: Civil Aviaition; Commerce and Industry; Finance and Companmy Affairs; Petroleum and Natural Gas; Tourism and Culture; Water Resources)

Total number of questions—154

Mismanagement at IGIA

†595. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to mismanagement prevailing at the Indira Gandhi International Airport;
- (b) if so, whether a sum of Rs. 700 is charged from the passengers in the name of providing them certain facilities free of cost inside the airport;
- (c) if so, whether the passengers are still made to pay additional money at the time of availing of these facilities;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and also the reasons for seepage of rain water from the roof of the Departure Hall ofthe said airport; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to do away with such mismanagement?

Smart Card Scheme of AAI

†596. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the 'Smart Card' scheme announced by the Airports Authority of India:
- (b) whether the said card has been given by the Authority to its employees; and
- (c) if so, the time taken in providing these cards after the said announcement?

Inadequate facilities at airports

- †597. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that due to irregularities, mismanagement and inadequate facilities at airports, passengers and their relatives have to face various problems;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that due to non-maintenance of buildings and their deteriorated condition people have to stand in water in rainy days;
- (c) if so, whether it is also a fact that despite charging extra amount from the passengers no attention is being paid towards their facilities:
- (d) if so, whether Government will take steps to provide better facilities to the passengers; and

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

(e) if so, by when and the details thereof?

Recovery of outstanding dues from international airlines

- 598. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have decided to take legal action to recover cumulative outstanding dues from 89 leading international airlines;
- (b) if so, whether these dues have to be recovered by various Government companies and departments including Air India, Airports Authority of India, the revenue department, etc.;
- (c) whether Government are also considering to adjust the amount against security deposits of these defaulters; and
- (d) if so, the total outstanding dues from these airlines?

Reduction of employees in AI flights

- 599. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Air India has the highest number of employees per aircraft in the world;
- (b) if so, the details in comparison with other international flights; and
- (c) what is Government's plans to reduce the number?

Losses suffered by aviation sector after terrorists attack in USA

- 600. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether consequent upon the

- September 11, 2001 events in the US, the aviation industry is likely to suffer a loss of \$6 million this year;
- (b) if so, whether the industry has lost \$12 billion last year;
- (c) whether the industry is on a recovery path but still not reached a stage of profitability;
- (d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to help the aviation sector to come out of the red:
- (e) whether any concrete policy in this regard have been formulated;and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

Air accidents

601. DR. AKHILESH DAS: DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per Civil Aviation authorities at least 24 per cent of th total air disasters in the country fall in the category of "deliberate error";
- (b) if so, the number and details of air accidents during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and the 2002-2003 so far, attributable to such "deliberate error" together with those which involved small aircraft; and
- (c) the steps taken and being taken to prevent such accidents?

Aircraft purchase by IA

602. SHRI SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines is purchasing 43 aircraft from Airbus

industries at an estimated cost of Rs. 10,089 crores:

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed purchase in on the recommendations of the Aircraft Evaluation Committee; and
- (d) if so, what are the other recommendations made by the committee?

Daily flights on Delhi-Guwahati route

- 603. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government will ensure introduction of a daily morning and evening flight to and from Guwahati to connect national capital with the North Region legitimately instead of keeping almost all flights at a time after 10 a.m. and before 4 p.m.; and
 - (b) if so, by when?

Induction of mini-planes

- 604. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKRAPU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Airlines propose to induct mini-planes; and
- (b) if so, the number to be added and how the investment amount would be arranged?

Insurance cover for travel agents

- 605. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Airlines propose to provide insurance cover to their travel agents;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for Indian Airlines burdening themselves for fire, burglary etc. of the office of the Agents?

Earnings of IA and AI

- 606. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a large percentage of IA and AIs earnings come from Government and semi-Government sources:
- (b) if so, the percentage thereof to the total earnings;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that these are called as official carriers; and
- (d) if so, whether there are any instructions that all Government servants use IA and AI for travelling?

Pending projects in Tamil Nadu

- 607. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of various projects/plans pending implementation at various airports in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) by when those projects will be completed;
- (c) whether any time frame has been set up;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Decrease in revenue passengers

- 608. SHRIMATI S. GOKUL INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether it is a fact that the revenue

passenger carried has decreased over the year from 7.635 million in 1994-95 to just 5.992 million in 2000-2001:

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps have been taken to increase the revenue passengers carried?

Acquisition of new aircrafts by IA & A I

- 609. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Air India and Indian Airlines have decided to acquire some new aircrafts to suplement their ageing fleets:
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the phased plans drawn up to acquire the additional aircraft and their proposed development:
- (c) whether it is also a fact that recently a machinery has been established to ensure that the two airlines desist from damaging each other's interests by under cutting, especially when their fleets are augmented and may have spare capacity to offer; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Cheating of foreign passengers by touts at IGI Airport

- †610. SHRI RAMA SHANKAR KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether incidents of cheating and misleading the passengers particularly foreign passengers by the touts are increasing constantly at India Gandhi International Airport and Palam airport;
- (b) if so, whether Government are considering to take action against these touts;

- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when action is likely to be taken; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Upgradation of Jaipur airport

- 611. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is any prposal to connect Sangner Airport (Jaipur) with some International flights and upgrade the Jaipur Airport to that of International standard; and
- (b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard so far?

Touts at airports

- †612. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Namon ki takhtiyan lekar khare rahte hain dalal" which appeared in Dainik Jagran dated 6th June, 2002;
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) what action has been taken by Government to get the travellers rid of touts and the outcomes thereof?

Vacant land with Hyderabad airport

- 613. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that more than twenty thousand square meters of vacant land is available with Hyderabad airport in Andhra Pradesh:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;

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

- (c) whether Government propose to provide Cargo Warehouses at this site of the airport; and
- (d) if so, the deails thereof and if not, what manner this vacant land is proposed to be utilised?

Bilateral agreement between India and U.K.

- 614. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKA-RASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether bilateral negotiations between India and U.K. to open each other's aviation market have ended in s stalemate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures proposed to be undertaken to work out a mutually acceptable solution?

Bank guarantee on IA tickets

- 615. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Indian Airlines has decided to do away with the bank guarantee against the issuance of tickets by the travel agents;
- (b) the reasons for allowing over trading levels above the bank guarantee to the Agents; and
- (c) the impact of these measures on boosting sales during the last two months?

Leasing of foreign air-carriers by domestic airlines

- 616. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether domestic Airlines can lease

- foreign air-carriers and whether Sahara Airlines has been given such a permission, as reported in the Economic Times of 10th June, 2002 if so, the details thereof;
- (b) what are the terms and conditions of lease of foreign air-carriers;
- (c) whether any other Indian company has been allowed this facility earlier, if so, the details thereof and whether any other Airlines will be granted such permission; and
- (d) whether the move now is towards foreign direct investment in the domestic sector?

New warning equipment system in IA aircrafts

- 617. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Indian Airlines aircrafts are being provided with new warning equipment shortly;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the advantages of these new equipments; and
- (d) whether the installation of the new system would help the pilots to take preventive steps to avoid accidents; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Seizure of unauthorised items from foreign airlines

- 618. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SHEKER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of foreign airlines operating to an from India as on 30th June, 2002:
- (b) the cities in India from where foreign airlines operate; and

(c) the number of in-coming flights from which drugs or other unauthorised items seized during the last one year ending 30th June, 2002?

Reversion of AI Chief Vigilance Officer

- 619. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Chief Vigilance officer of Air India has ben reverted back to his parent cadre without completion of his term;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

IA with International Airlines

- 620. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) in what manner Indian Airlines compare vis-a-vis other international domestic airlines with reference to fleet size, age of the aircrafts, cabin crew ratio and spares; and
 - (b) what are the details thereof?

Training of serving pilots of IAIAI

- 621. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any provisions of sending the serving pilots of Air India, Indian Airlines and Alliance Air for advanced training;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether pilots receive training on flight simulators of the aircrafts that they are presently flying;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Upgradation of airports in Rajasthan

- 622. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering for upgrading the airports in a phased manner, of all major cities in Rajasthan which cater to international tourists;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when such upgrading of airports would take place?

Upgradation of Bagdogra airport

- 623. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Bagdogra Airport is the only airport in the region which caters to the needs of the people visiting Sikkim;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that if this airport is brought to the International standard it would attract flihts from adjoining countries like Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh as result of which flow of international tourists to this part of the country would enhance; and
- (c) if so, what action Government propose to taken in the matter?

Dumping duty on Indian Steel

- 624. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "US may finalise dumping duty on Indian Steel" which appeared in the news-item dated the 22nd May, 2002;
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the export market of the Indian steel which may be adversely affected by the imposition of countervailing duties by USA?

Trade concession offered by Pakistan

- 625. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whehter it is a fact that Pakistan had granted duty concession on over 600 items to India and other SAARC countries under the South Asia Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA);
- (b) if so, the name of these items together with the duty concession given on each; and
- (c) what is Government's reaction to these concessions?

Benefits for organised industrial sector

- 626. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) the extent to which the organised industrial sector has been benefited from the globalisation;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted in this regard; and
- (c) if not, in what manner Government propose to move on the Second Generation Reforms?

Irregularities in Export Inspection Council

- 627. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether many Members of Parliament have urged the Prime Minister to order a high-level probe into the serious

- irregularities in Export Inspection Council of India;
- (b) if so, whether the members have furnished details about the acts of omission and commission and some officials going against the rules and regulations;
- (c) whether the Prime Minister has conducted any enquiry;
 - (d) if so, the outcome there of; and
- (e)what steps are being taken to check the irregularities in this Council?

Implementation of agri-export zone scheme

628. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

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

- (a) whether under the Exim policy 2001-02, 28 agri-export zones have so far been set up in 14 selected states;
- (b) if so, what was the total multi-agency investment, so far;
- (c) what is the investment by the private sector, Central Government agencies and also by the State Governments;
- (d) whether the nodal agency for the programme, Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority has claimed that the total investment will result in an export earning of Rs. 3440 crore in the next five years; and
- (e) if so, to what extent this plan has been fully implemented?

Import of food products

- 629. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have allowed import of food products;

- (b) whether Government have fixed GM certification norms for import of food products; and
- (c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

Auction of Tobacco

630. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister had urged his for immediate market intervention by the Tobacco Board to lift the tobacco from the auction platforms;
- (b) if so, whether he has pointed out that even though the auction platforms were opened on January 24, 2002, so far not even 40 per cent of stocks were lifted;
- (c) whether he had given any assurance in this regard; and
- (d) if so, what steps were taken by Government on the proposals made by AP Agriculture Minister?

Protection to domestic tea companies

†631.SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI:

> SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHARJEE:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether Government have allowed hundred percent foreign investment in tea plantations; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the detils steps taken under the said decision for safeguarding the interests of

Indian tea companies and the tea plantation workers: and

(c) in what manner it would help the tea sector and the consumers?

Financial assistance to agricultural producers

632. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether Government will extend the steps taken in the case of Coffee Growers, like rescheduling of crop loans, granting fresh loans and interest subsidy scheme, to the cultivators of various agricultural products like coconut, Arecanut, tobacco, tea, cotton, pepper etc; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

Free trade with Bangladesh

- 633. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any proposal for free trade with Bangladesh;and
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the present status of the proposals?

Reform in tea auction system

- 634. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTA-CHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Reforms in tea auction system soon" a high appear in the Hindu dated the 18th June, 2002;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to deal with the problems faced by the tea industry particularly the small scale sector because of the prevailing low prices?

Industries in rural areas

- 635. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have formulated any specific long-term policy for setting up of new industries in the rural areas of the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of amount granted and spent by Government for setting up of industries in these areas during the 9th plan and the details of funds proposed to be allocated in the 10th plan for the above purpose?

Creteria for compiling infrastructure index

636. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

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

- (a) the details of criteria compiled by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) in infrastructure index; and
- (b) the name of the States which fulfilled the criteria?

Study on ill-effects of WTO agreement

- 637. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
 - (a) whether Government are aware of

- the ill-effects of WTO agreement on Indian agriculture and industry including traditional industries; and
- (b) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take in view of the ensuing meet of WTO in Mexico?

Removal of TBT on import of steel

- 638. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large section of industry has represented him for removal of Tecnnical Barriers on Trade (TBT) imposed on the imports of Steel products vide DGFT Notification No. 44 since non-availability of the requisite grades of Steel has severly hit the industry;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Law to whom a reference was made by the Ministry of Commerce has also opined that the inclusion of Steel products in the DGFT Notification is not tenable since the conditions imposed on the Foreign producers are not applicable to the Indian producers; and
- (c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Trade policy review body of WTO

- 639. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Trade Policy Review Body of WTO conducts review of trade policies of countries on a regular basis;
- (b) if so, whether any review has been conducted for India so far;
 - (c) if so, the findings there of; and
- (d) the action taken by India in this regard?

Scrutiny of exports to USA

640. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's exports to the United States has come under severe scrutiny by Government:
- (b) if so, whether Government have recently launched a major investigation to trace the authenticity of exports to the US, particularly by garment exporters;
- (c) whether about 300 hundred drawback accounts of major exporters have been freezed by the Department of Revenue under this exercise; and
- (d) if so, what action has been taken against those held responsible?

New Shares by Banks

- 641.DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the names of public sector banks which are coming up for initial public offers of their shares during the next 12 months;
- (b) the number of shares to be issued by each bank with issue price thereof; and
- (c) the total amount to be collected by banks through these issues?

Second round of VRS in S.B.I.

- 642.SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the State Bank of India is planning for second round of VRS to axe 40 percent staffers;
- (b) whether they are planning for aggressive Information Technology

initiative, which is implemented would result in redundancies; if so, the details of this initiative; and

(c) whether this project when implemented in its entirity will improve the efficiency, credibility, speed and would give a great boost to the Indian economy; if so, the details of the benefits that would be derived out of this initiative?

Revival of weak TCOs by IDBI

643.DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 502 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th August, 2001 and state the details of the para-wise action taken on the specific action plan prepared by IDBI for revival of all the weak TCOs including NEITCO submitted on restructuring the Technical Consultancy Organizations and the outcome thereof?

Liquidity crisis in IFC

- 644. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation of India is facing a severe liquidity crisis; and
- (b) if so, what measures have been adopted by Government/RBI/IDBI to deal with this crisis?

New guidelines for registration of companies

- 645.SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to issue new guidelines for registration of companies;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a large number of companies in the country have duped investors to the tune of crores of rupees; and
- (d) if so, the extent to which the new guidelines are going to protect the interest of investors?

Redemption pressure in UTI

- 646.SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether UTI has borrowed a huge amount from financial institutions and banks to meet its payment obligation recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the borrowings and the name of lending institutions;
- (c) whether UTI is facing acute redemption pressure these days; and
- (d) if so, the detail of the possible pay out?

Sharing of service tax with State Government

- 647. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJ-ARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that several committees and commissions have recommend that no distinction should be made between goods and services for the purpose of taxation;
- (b) whether it is a fact that State Governments have been urging the Central Government to amend the Constitution to enable the State Governments to impose tax on services;
- (c) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to share service tax with the State Governments pending amendment to the Constitution?

Trade deficit

- 648. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether according to Central for Monitoring Indian Economy, India's trade deficit is likely to touch \$ 15.4 billion during 2002-03:
- (b) if so, whether in its latest review of the Indian economy, CMIE has pointed out that onpayment basis the trade deficit would be higher because defence spending was likely to increase during the year;
- (c) if so, what are the other conclusions made by the CMIE; and
 - (d) the steps suggested in this regard?

Legilsation on NPAs

- 649. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering a legislation to enable banks and financial institutions to clean-up their balance sheets of non-performing assets or bad loans;
- (b) if so, by when this legislation is likely to be introduced:
- (c) what are the main features of this legislation; and
- (d) to what extent it will help banks to take action on the defaulting companies?

Electronic fund transfer to spped up remittance of funds

- 650. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked banks to increase the use of facilities like electronic fund transfer and

Infinet to speed up transfer of funds between banks across cities;

- (b) if so, whether this move was in response to complaints received from stock brokers that remittance of funds at the branches of several public sector banks take longer than other private banks; and
- (c) if so, to what extent these orders from RBI have been iumplemented by the banks?

Pending cases with Debt Recover Tribunal

- 651. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether as many as 5,780 cases involving an amount of Rs. 8,014.63 crores are pending with Debt Recovery Tribunal as on March 31, 2002;
 - (b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;
- (c) what steps are being taken by Government to dispose off the pending cases; and
- (d) by all the pending cases will be cleared?

Assistance to financial institutions

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

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have extended financial assitance to various financial institutions of the country in case of financial crunch faced by there;
- (b) if so, the name of the during institutions to which financial assistance have been given 1999-2000 and 2001-2002 alongwith the amount given; and

(c) the reasons for giving such assistance in each matter?

Effectiveness of FEMA, 2002

653. DR. KARAN SINGH: DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 2002, which came into force to replace Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 falls far too short to be effective to curb evils of rampant corruption, hawala business, smuggling of narcotics and other crimes relating to foreign exchange; and
- (b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure that identified culprits indulging in such crimes to destabilies the country's economy, do not get scot free, to the detriment of honest tax payers?

Frauds by financial website Home Trade

654. DR. AKHILESH DAS: SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints of frauds against the financial website Home Trade and some brokers involving hundreds of crores of rupees have lately been received by the Reserve Bank of India;
- (b) if so, the nature and the details of the frauds alleged to have been played, the total amount involved and the outcome of the investigations, if any made; and
- (c) the action taken against those found responsible and the steps taken to protect

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

the interest of the depositors and others who fell victims to the fraud?

(d) what is the reaction of the State Governments to the formation of the proposed committee?

Industrizal slow-down

655. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that industrial slow-down and globalisation are responsible for the rising unemployment in India;
- (b) whether Government are also aware that prolonged joblessness has led to frustration and discontentment among the unemployed youth and posed a big problem for the country; and
- (c) whether Government and the private sector still intend to cut job; and
- (d) if so, the reasons and justification thereof?

Committee to address the fiscal problems of states

656. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a high-powered Committee has been set to address the fiscal problems of States;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the problems of mounting debt burden of the State Governments and the problem of shortfall in devolution of Central Taxes to states would be considered by the Committee and if not, the reasons therefor; and

Increase in NPAs of banks

657. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether it is a fact that despite aggressive recovery methods adopted by banks, NPAs are on the rise;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that despite tough measures taken by Government NPAs have shot up by 65.75 percent during the fiscal ending March, 2002; and
- (c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

Seizure of narcotics

658. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have seized Narcotics and other similar drugs worth several crores of rupees during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with the value of narcotics seized during the last one year; and
- (c) what is the number of persons arrested/detained by the Law Enforcement agencies so far in drug pedaling?

Credibility of UTIO

659. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Unit Scheme 1964 (US-64) will not pay any dividend for the year 2001-2002;
 - (b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the credibility of the UTI has been reduced as compared to other companies in the private sector for not paying dividend, lowering interest rates in MIPs etc.; and
- (d) if so, whether Government propose to take over or privatize the UTI and if not, the reasons therefor?

Improper payments by Modi Corp Nation Ltd.

660. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI ABANI ROY: SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government are aware that Serox Corp has recently disclosed that its Indian subsidiary had made improper payments to Government officials for the promotion of their sales;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether Government have investigated the accounts of Xerox Modi Corporation Limited in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action Government propose to take against the Government officials invovled?

New VRS for bank Employees

- 661. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) Whether Government are considering another proposal of voluntary retirement scheme for bank employees;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the desired target of downsizing has been achieved from first round ov VRS; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

NABARD programme for strengthening rural creidt scheme

- 662. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development has formulated a programme for strengthening Rural Credit System;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether NABARD has examined the reports submitted by Prof. V.S. Vyas Committee on Rural Credit;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) What is Government reaction thereto?

Use of buy back option by M/s Sterlite

- 663. SHRINILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been some controversy over the manner in which buy back option has been pursued by M/s. Sterlite:

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the DCA has examined the issue from the stand point of the Company Act and other rules and regulations which dcitate such activities; and
- (d) if so, the findings thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Cases against defaulting banks

- 664. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge NPA accounts lying with various public sector banks and financial institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, bank-wise, institution-wise and age-wise;
- (c) what is the number of suits filed by the concerned banks and the institutions and the companies and their details in terms of ownErship and nature of violations in each
- (d) the amount received under compromise settlement as against claims bank-wise, institutions-wise; and
- (e) The step to be Farren by Government to address this issue?

Penalising powers in Company law

- †665. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MAILK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to give penalising powers to company law by bringing comprehensive modification in it;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is expected to be implemented;

- (c) whether Government are aware of manipulations being done in the accounts by Indian companies;
- (d) if so, the details of such companies; and
- (e) the details of the action taken by Government against those companies?

Amendment in UTI Act

- †666. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MAILK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to bring Amendments in UTI Act;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) by when, Government are likely to introduce a Bill for Amendment of the said Act:
- (d) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of funds for redemption of MIP, 1997 of UTI;
- (e) if so, whether Government are considering to give any financial package to salvage cash trapped UTI; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

World Bank aid for child and women development

- 667. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of financial grants/ assistance received from the World Bank for the implementation of development schemes and programmes for women and children in the country during the last three years;

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

- (b) whether the financial assistance received from the World Bank for the Child and Women development has been fully utilised by Government;
 - c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Fresh evaluation for filing of Incometax returns

- 668. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a fresh evaluation has been made to assess the efficacy of the one-bysix Scheme for mandatory filing of the Income Tax returns;
 - (b) if so, the results thereof; and
- (c) The details of the fresh initiatives taken/proposed to be taken to achieve the original objective of the scheme to increase the total number of income tax assesses and also to rationalise the scheme to exempt certain categoriexs of the mere "Returnh Filers" have no tax liability?

GDP growth rate

- 669. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether according to foreign economists India would be the third greatest economy of the world by the year 2025;
- (b) whether as per Reserve Bank of India the gross domestic product is estimated to increase between 6 and 6.5 percent during the current financial year; and
- (c) if so, what Steps are being taken to attain both the targets?

Greater powers for SEBI for undertaking inspections

- 670. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to grant sweeping powers to the "Securities and Exchange Board of India for undertaking inspections investigation, search and seizure;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the safeguards proposed against misuse of power by SEBI and undue harassment to the people?

New scheme for recovery of NPA

- 671. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) what is extent of NPAs of Public Sector Banks as on 31st March, 2002;
- (b) whether Government have devised any new scheme for the recovery of Nonperforming assets (NPAs) of the Public Sector Banks:
- (c) what are the main features of the new recovery scheme and how are they going to expedite recovery of NPAs; and
- (d) by when the new scheme is goign to be implemented?

Printing of five rupee note

- 672. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have discontinued low denomination notes some time back due to their high cost of production and low life span;

- (b) whether it is a fact that Gvoernment have again started printing of five rupee notes:
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the cost of printing of each note vis-a-vis coin of same denomination;
- (d) whether Government propose to cosider the option of plastic currency as in some neighbouring countries; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

IDBI loan to Essar Group of Companies

673. SHRI AMAR SINGH: SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whethe as reported in the sian Age of July 1, 2002 Indian Fianncial Institutions specially the IDBI, have doled out an estimated Rs. 11,053 crore to the ESSAR group;
- (b) if so, whether Government have caused a probe into the basis on which the IDBI and other FIs had written off such astronomical amounts as bad debts, and to trace where the money had gone; if so, the outcome thereof giving Institution wise and Bank-wise details of the bad debts written off; and
- (c) what action has been taken and is being taken against the players in the siphoning the huge sums of money?

Recovery of loss in Central Bank of India

- †674. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) whegther it is a fact that C.B.I. has

registered a case with regard to a loss of Rs. 36 lakhs suffered by Paharganj, New Delhi branch of the Central Bank of India in the month of June, 2002;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the persons against whom action is being taken; and
- (d) the steps being taken for the recovery of money and to punish the guilty?

Economic package for border districts of Punjab

675. SHRI AHSWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating a special economic assistance package for the border districts fo Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur in Punjab as in the case of J & K And the north east?

Projected FDI inflow target

- 676. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that FDI inflows declined in 2001 as compared to 2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any target has been fixed for 2002; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Transfers of staff in State Bank of Binaker and Jaipur

- 677. SHRI SHYAM LAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
 - (a) the details of employees who were

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

transferred on promotions and are brought back to the same station again within 1 to 2 years during last three years by State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur;

- (b) the rules/policies under which these were done;
- (c) whether cases for transfer to other States considered on merits are lying pending;
- (d) by when action will be tkane in this regard; and
- (d) in how many particular cases frequent transfers were made within Jaipur and Bikaner Zone only during last three years and the specific reasons therefor?

Floating of global sovereign bond for liquidating high cost debt

- 678. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to float global sovereign bonds in the international market to liquidate its high cost debt as reported in the Business Standard of 10th June, 2002, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the recommendations of the High Level Committee appointed to work out the modalities of reducing its stock of costly external debt;
- (c) the total amount of foreign loan Government owe; and
- (d) what other measures are proposed to be taken to reduce the foreign loan debt?

Selling off UTIs holdings in ITC Ltd.

679. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Unit Trust

- of India (UTI) has offloaded most of its monthly income plan (MIP) portfolios in the market to a few large FIIs;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether UTI has sought permission from Government to sell its holdings in ITC Ltd. to its foreign partner BAT in view of its current liquidity constraints; and
- (d) if so, the details of the UTI stake in ITC Ltd and what is Gvoernment's response to the UTI's suggestion to sell its holdings?

Crack down on urban cooperative banks in Tamil Nadu

- 680. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the RBI has cracked down into urban co-operative banks in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, whether this is the first time RBI has cracked down on UCBs in Tamil Nadu:
- (c) whether these banks are asked to register with RBI in order to bring them under Banking Regulatiosn Act;
- (d) if so, whether the action of the RBI follows the implementation of the recommendations by the High Power Committee set up under the chairmanship of Mr. K. Madhava Rao in 1999; and
- (e) if so, to what extent the recommendations of the High Power Committee has beenfully implemented?

Higher collection to taxes by states

- 681. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsiTem captioned, "States make more in taxes than Centre"

which appeared in the Economic Times dated June 10, 2002;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any incentive is proposed to be given to the States for mopping up higher collections;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the reasons for Central collections lagging behind and steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

High cost interest burden of integrated steel plants

- 682. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that integrated steel plants are facing acute crisis owing to high cost interest burden;
- (b) if so, the total amount of loan burden and its annual interest commitments (unit wise); and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to bail out the Industry?

Credit flow to North-Eastern State by Commercial Banks

- 683. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have instructed the commercial banks to increase credit flow to North-Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the details of the targets given to the bzanks;
- (c) the list of banks which have and which have not complied with the targets;
- (d) The date of such instructions and bank-wise achievements upto June, 2002; and

(e) the reasons for shortfall, if any, and the steps taken to meet the targets Z?

Sacking of staff by central cooperative bank, Dmoh

- 684. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in Hindustan Times of 24th April 2002 under the caption' cleared by court sacked staffer still awaits justice' and newsitem of 23rd April in poineer under the caption' For NHRC ,issues are important, not individuals;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what are the reasons that information sought from the central Cooperative Bank, Madhya Pradesh is not being supplied to National Human Rights Commission and concerned?

Non-declaration of devidends by UTI

- 685. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Unit Trust of India has decided not to declare any dividends under its Unit 64 Scheme for the year ending 30th June. 2002:
- (b) whether Government are aware of the hardships caused to millions of small investors who had put their hard-earned savings in Unit 64 Scheme;
- (c) whether Government was consulted before UTI arrived at this decision;
- (d) if so, the advice given by Government to UTI;
- (e) whether Government are satisfied that UTI has taken credible measures to avoid such outcomes in the future; and

(f) if so, the measures adopted or proposed to be adopted in the current year?

Export potentials

- 686. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the survey report of C.I.I. published in the newspapers on 9th June, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to take any effective steps to save export potential;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government would made any special provisions to make credit-cost export-oriented; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

Outstanding loans of Manipur

- 687. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the outstanding loan of Manipur Government from Union Government as on today;
- (b) the short-term and the long-term assistance extended by Central Government;
- (c) whether there is any special plan/policy to Manipur from the burden of financial deficit partly or fully; and
- (d) if reply to (c) shall be in the affirmative, the details thereof?

Financial deficit of North-Eastern States

688. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial deficit of the eight North-Eastern States including Sikkim as on today;
- (b) whether there is any special plan to help the States to over come the deficit;
 - (c) if so, the details of the Plan; and
- (d) if reply to (b) above be is negative, whether such a plan is required on the grounds of extreme strategic, backward and remote positions?

Amount collected under registration by Mohan Nagar Awas Samiti

- 689. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the amount collected for Registration under categories 'A' 'B' and 'C' by Mohan Nagar Karamchari Sehkari Awas Samiti Ltd. Mohan Nagar from its inception in lumpsum or by installments year-wise and the details thereof;
- (b) whether such amounts have been reflected in Income tax return every year;
 - (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

Loans to rural poor in Himachal Pradesh

- 690. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of amount of loans granted to the rural poor uneducated/educated/skilled unskilled under the self employment scheme in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years by the National and Rural banks, bankwise, category-wise, districtwise and yearwise;
- (b) the details of criteria fixed by each Bank for granting loan to these people in the State;

- (c) the details of applications lying pending with these Banks and whether poor people are facing difficulties in getting loans; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Investigation of non-existent import

- 691. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that 15,000 cases of non-existent import which have cheated Government for several crores of rupees have been sent by RBI to Enforcement Directorate for investigation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the companies whose transactions exceeded Rs. 1 crore; and
- (c) what action the Enforcement Directorate has taken thereon?

Circulation of fake currency

- 692. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact circulation of fake currency has been increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government have the information that it is being printed in Banglasesh;
- (c) if so, whether Government are completing to take any concrete steps to check the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when and it not, the reasons therefor?

Accidents on LPG/CNG run vehicles

693. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to minimize fire accidents in motor vehicles run on LPG/CNG:
- (b) whether Government are aware of bursting of LPG/CNG Gas cylinders used in buses and cars; and
- (c) if so, whether Government are planning to stop the usage of LPG/CNG Gas cylinders in motor vehicles?

Competition between ONGC and Chinese Companies

- 694. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the stiff competition between ONGC Videsh and the Chinese Oil Companies for acquiring oil equity abroad is proving to be a costly affair for the two Asian neighbours;
- (b) the oil experts are of the view that if the Chinese oil companies, spearheaded by CNPC, join hands with ONGC Videsh they will be able to strike better deals; and
- (c) if so, the stand of Government on the above suggestion?

Protection to CNG Stations from rain

- †695. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared on 30th June, 2002 in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' under the caption "Barish se kai CNG Station kee machinan kharab, Eendhan ka tota";
- (b) if so, the number of CNG Stations affected in Delhi due to rain;
 - (c) the steps taken by Government to

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

protect these machines of CNG Stations in the rainly seasons in future; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Oil wells in Andhra Pradesh

- 696. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether ONGC has drilled exploratory oil wells and also undertook development of oil wells in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year wise and district-wise;
- (c) what will be the estimated crude production from these wells?

Strategic oil reserve

697. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-RAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the measures proposed to build a strategic oil reserve of six months to a year to completely insulate the country from any eventuality like war?

Export of petroleum products

- 698. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether India exported 7.15 million tonne (MT) of petroleum products during the first nine months of financial year 2001-2002;
- (b) if so, the total amount earned by these exports;
- (c) what was the total imports of crude oil made by India during this period;
- (d) what was the domestic crude oil production during this period; and

(e) what steps are being taken to improve the exports of Indian petroleum products and also to reduce the import of crude oil?

Foreign companies in oil exploration

- 699. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJ-ARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that oil exploration has been thrown open to international players, if so, what are the details in this regard;
- (b) whether it is a fact that 60 percent of the oil exploration area is already brought under the licensing regime; if so, the details of the foreign investors to whom license has been issued so far and the FDI brought in by each of the investors; and
- (c) whether the remaining oil exploration areas would also be licensed to the foreign companies; if so, by when?

Black Marketing of CNG

700. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the black marketing of CNG at the various filling station in New Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether Government will take measures for opening of more filling stations to check such black marketing and to provide CNG in adequate quantity; and
- (c) if so, by when, Government propose to open more stations alongwith the number of stations likely to be opened?

New Oil refineries

†701.SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for setting up of new oil refineries and to increase oil refining capacity of existing oil refineries in the country to increase further oil refining capacity is being considered;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of proposal under consideration regarding extent of increase in the capacity of Public sector oil companies at present?

Overseas investment of oil companies

†702.SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN": SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of domestic oil companies have invested capital in various foreign oil companies;
- (b) if so, names of companies which invested money alongwith time when these companies have invested the money as well as amount invested by these companies separately;
- (c) the name of those foreign companies in which the said amount is invested; and
- (d) the annual dividend earned through that capital investment?

Extent of oil price increase

†703.SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that prices of petrol and diesel have been increased at several times in the country since April, 2002;
- (b) if so, at what times the prices were increased and to what extent the prices were increased; and
- (c) the reasons for increasing the prices?

Estimated revenue on increase in oil prices

704. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of petrol and diesel were further increased in the first week of June this year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the reasons therefor and the estimated increase in revenue to be had thereby and how far it would reduce the deficit in bills; and
- (c) whether with the increase in prices the excise duty leviable on petrol and diesel was decreased to counter the impact of rise in international prices of oil, if so, to what extent?

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

Propogation of changes in oil prices

705. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to devise an effective system to communicate the changes in the prices of Petrol and Diesel so that retail outlets do not fleet customers;
- (b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor keeping in view fortnightly changes in prices of Petroleum Products under the new free market system?

Overseas equity of ONGC-Videsh

706. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that ONGC Videsh have acquired or acquiring oil equity abroad;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether ONGC Videsh have recently lost out to the Chinese competitor for hot oil properties, both good producing fields in Oman and Indonesia: and
 - (d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

Award of contracts by oil companies

707. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any watchdog policy has been framed to stop the exploitation of small and petty contractors engaged in Turn-key contracts awarded to be contractor in different public sector oil companies;

- (b) whether it is a fact that M/s. Ghanshaym Steel Works Limited having registered office at Vithal Smruti, 2nd Floor, 78, Sampat Rao Colony, Alkapuri, Baroda, has been awarded a contract by EIL, IOC is following the above said policy;
 - (c) if so, upto what extent; and
- (d) if not, the reasons thereof and what action has been taken against the company?

Administration of oil prices

708. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the oil price shifts in a truly deregulated scenario;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the above in details:
- (c) whether the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) have been dismantled;
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether there is any proposal for the Petroleum Regulatory Authority; and
- (f) if so, the details alongwith the measures to administer the prices of oil?

Sharing of Cess on oil

709. SHRIBACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have doubled the Cess amount from Rs. 900/- MT to Rs. 1800/- MT;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the liberalized regime has enhanced the responsibilities of the State and now they have a greater role to play;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Members of Parliament in their

Memorandum of 1st May, 2002 impressed upon Government to share with Oil producing States at least 50 percent from the income generated from the Cess; and

(d) if so, whether any decision has been taken by Government and if not, the reasons therefor?

Disposal of waste steel pipes by ONGC

- 710. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) in what manner ERBC of ONGC distribute the waste steel pipes for building of bridges in upper Assam;
- (b) whether there is any guidelines to provide these for MPLAD schemes in the region; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in supplying to such MPLAD public schemes?

Absorbtion in increase in oil prices

- 711. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a proposal for absorbing small increases in oil prices by the oil companies instead of passing these on to consumers;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of oil companies to such proposal?

Mechanism for revision of oil prices

712. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that with the dismantling of administered pricing mechanism in petroleum sector, periodic revision of the prices of petrol and diesel has become the order of the day;
- (b) if so, the details of the revisions made since the APM was dismantled; and
- (c) whether any mechanism has been evolved to ensure that the oil companies and petrol pump owners do not fleece their customers; if so, the details thereof?

Petrol pumps on Public land

- †713. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of pumps belonging to various companies which have been installed at public land in Delhi;
- (b) whether it is a fact that 90 percent dealers have made illegal occupancy on more land than allotted one;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the area of land under illegal occupancy of the petrol pumps, indicating the names of petrol pumps and the proposes for which the illegal land is being utilized; and
- (e) by when Government propose to remove such illegal occupancy?

Provision of basic facilities at petrol pumps

- 714. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is compulsory for all the petrol pumps of all public sector Oil Companies to make available basic facilities such as free air, drinking water, toilets etc. to their consumers:

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

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether basic facilities are being provided by all the petrol pumps in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if not, the number of petrol pumps without the facilities, company-wise and State-wise: and
- (e) the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

Jatar Committee Report on accident in old wells

- †715. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government had set up a Committee under the chairmanship of Major General, S.C.N. jatar on October, 30, 2001 to investigate the accidents taking place in oil-wells andrefineries;
- (b) if so, whether Government have received the report;
- (c) if so, the details of recommendations made by Jatar Committee in its report;
- (d) whether Government have considered these recommendations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Fixation of domestic gas price

- †716. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to fix prices of domestic natural gas at par withh fuel oil;
 - (b) if so, thereasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government have received any representation from any State opposing such a proposal;

- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof;and
- (e) what is Government's reaction thereto?

Rise in International oil prices

- 717. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) what mechanism are being adopted by the oil companies to fix the prices of petroleum products after the dismantling of the administered price system from 1st April, 2002;
- (b) whether it is a fact that even now oil companies fix prices after consultation with Government;
- (c) if so, on what principles Government's advice in based on;
- (d) whether Government have worked out a strategy for dealing with volatility in international oil prices; and
- (e) what is the budgetary provision for 2002-2003 for providing subsidy to kerosene and LPG?

Privatisation of oil PSUs

- 718. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTER-JEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the total asset of ONGC, BPCL and HPCL and the profits made by these oil companies; and
- (b) the logic behind moving for privatisation of these giants PSUs in which throusnads of crores of Government money is invested?

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

Hike in oil prices

- 719. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTER-JEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the comparative figure of hike of international crude price and the Central Govenrment hiked petrol and diesel prices during the period-2002 to till date;
- (b) the reason for not passing the decrease in international crude price to the consumer during the past two years?

Allocation of CNG to Delhi

- 720. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the allocation of CNG for Delhi has been increased as reported in the Times of India dated 21st June, 2002;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether inspite of increase in allocation of CNG in Delhi, the CNG vehicles have to wait for hours together to get the supplies; and
- (d) if so, the details of the other steps taken to mitigate the hardships being faced by CNG vehicles?

impact of excise duties on prices of petroleum products

- †721. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Prices of Petroleum Products have been linked with their excise duties;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Dealers, Pump owner earn huge profit due

- to implementation of Government's decision after one or two days of their announcements: and
- (d) if so, whether it is also a fact that theconsumers are cheated by the pumpowners by depositing the bank-drafts in previous dates and by stopping the supply at petrol pumps keeping in view of possibility of fluctuation in prices?

International and domestic prices of LPG and Kerosene

- 722. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government appear to be in a dilemma over the increase in the gap between the international and domestic prices of LPG and Kerosene; and
- (b) what formula Government is going to adopt to resolve the gap i.e. differednce between the domestic and international prices?

Recommendation for World Heritage Sites

- 723. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Kumbhalgarh Fort and Ranakpur Jain Temple Complex of Rajasthan would be recommended for World Heritage site status next years;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to recommend any touist place in Tamil Nadu in particular and other States in general for World Heritage site status;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Development of Kodagu district for tourism destination

- 724. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJ-ARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the criteria for desigating a place as a tourism spot;
- (b) whether areas endowed with natural beauties are also classified as areas of tourist interest:
- (c) if so, whether Govenrment are aware that Kodagu district in Karnatuaka is surfeit with mountains, rivers and plantations and its rich cultural heritage;
- (d) if so, whether Govenrment have any proposal to develop Kodagu district as a tourism destination both for inland and overseas tourists:
 - (e) if so, by when; and
 - (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Antique paintings destroyed in National Gallery of Modern Arts

- †725. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in 'Rashtriya Sahara' on 28th April, 2002 captioned, "Dekh-rekh kay abhav main nasht ho rahin hain durlabh etihasik paintings":
- (b) if so, the number of important paintings and piece of arts destroyed so far in the National Gallery of Modern Arts;
- (c) the action Governmet propose to take against the concerned officers for this kind of negligence; and
 - (d) the detials of steps Government

propose to take to care for historical works of arts and paintings in such type of museums in future?

Closure of Nizam's Jewellery Exhibition

726. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Hindu, dated the 16th May, 2002, captioned "Jagmohan orders closure of Nizam's Jewels Exhibition";
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for closure of the exhibition;
- (c) whether Government are aware of strong public feeling of the people of Andhra Pradesh in the matter which was communicated by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to the Prime Minister; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to honour the assurance of the Prime Ministrer in this regard given to the Chief Minister?

Foreign tourist traffic

727. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Foreign Tourist traffic has dropped by 15 to 20 percent amounting to 2.3 percent decline in foreign exchange earnings after September 11, terrorist attack;
- (b) if so, whether the Minister is working out to attract domestic torurists to consolidate in Indian tourism industry, if so, the details thereof;

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

- (c) whether the Minister of Tourism and Culture has allocated funds to improve Jain Temple Complexes of Karnataka have been inclued in the list; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

Effect of Indo-Pak tension on tourism industry

728. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: SHRI R.P. GOENKA: PROF. M. SANKARAL INGAM:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Indo-Pak border tension/being a frequent phenomenon, has reflected on our tourist industry of late; and
- (b) what steps are taken to insulate tourism against it?

Promotion of tourism in Rajasthan and Goe

729. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the rate of tourist visiting Rajasthan and Goa for the last three years along with the entire country; and
- (b) whether there are any new schemes that the ministry of Tourism and Culture propose to introduce to promote tourism for the States of Rajasthan and Goa?

Decline of foreign tourists

730. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTRUE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to war like situation in the Indian sub-continent many foreign countiies have issued travel warning to their citizens and have withdrawn number of their citizens from India;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that due to these travel warnings there have been a decline in the travel of foreign tourists particularly from USA and European countires during the last six months; and
- (c) if so, the percentage of decline in tourism during this period, country-wise?

Promotion of tourism and culture in

- 731. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the latest projects taken by Ministry of Tourism and Culture for promoting tourism and culture in Assam district-wise, information:
- (b) what new proposals have been planned fo the promotion of tourism and culture in the State in the coming Tenth Five Year Plan?

Short fall in gratuity funds in ITDC Hotels

- 732. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased tos tate:
- (a) whether it is a fact that in 11 Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) Hotels that have been privatised, a shortfall of Rs. 23 crores in their gratuity funds have been found;
- (b) if so, whether this gratuity payments are proposed to be made from disinvestment proceeds;
 - (c) whether it would be legal to pay

gratuity from dis-investment proceeds; and

(d) the other details in this regard?

Development of tourism in Assam

- 733. SHRI URKHAD GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what kind of coordination the Ministry of Tourism maintains with the Forest Ministry in this regard as Assam has tourist place under forests only?

Development of Hemkund Sahib, Badrinath

- 734. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Ministry of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) if so, by when the development is likely to commence;
- (c) whether the finance have been arranged from International Agencies for the purpose;
 - (d) if so, the name of such an agency;
- (e) the suggestions made by National Seminar on the International Eco-tourism; and
- (f) the steps being taken to get them implemented?

Untilised budgetary allocation

- †735. SHRI RAMA SHANKAR KAUSHIK: will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the budget allocations made to the Ministry for development of Tourism

- and Culture were returned untilised to the Ministry of Finance ; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the action taken/contemplated against the officers responsible for non-utilisation surrender of funds?

Heritage siter selected in A.P.

- 736. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that as a part of new initiative some centres like Both Gaya, Jaisalmer and Hampi are to be developed as major tourist destinations in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any site from Andhra Pradesh has been selected for the purpose and;
- (d) if so, the details there of and the action taken to develop the site into a major tourist attraction; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds allocated for promotion of tourism

- 737. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the projects formulated in the different parts of the country for the promotion of tourism sector during the last three years and till date;
- (b) the state-wise details of funds disbursed for implementation of the said projects in the country; and
- (c) the details of the achievement made in this regard?

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

Trusts for temples and shrines

738 SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have asked State Governments to set up trusts for managing major temples and shrines;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have formulated a plan to provide financial assistance to these trusts;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the response of State Governments in this regard?

Outcome of the meeting of Indus Water commission

739 SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether annual meeting of Indus Water Commission was held in the last week of May,2002 in New Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether apart from routine matters any other matter like Tulbul navigation project was also discussed in the meeting; and
 - (c) the details in this regard?

Projects on Chenab and RAvi River

740 DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the three day Indus Water Commission meeting in May this year, the Pakistani delegation raised any objections and expressed its concerns about the Indian Baglihar Hydro Electric Project

- on Chenab river and the construction of flood protection works on Ravi river;
- (b) if so, the details of the projects in question and the objections raised and concerns expressed by Pakistan about them; and
- (c) the Government's reaction and response thereto?

Identification of drought areas in the National Water Policy

- 741 SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether suffered by large adequate measures in the new National Water Policy 2002 to take care of the repeated droughts parts of county in the recent years;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof and the "drought prone areas" being identified so that prevgentive measures could also be taken in time: and
- (c) inwhat manner Government propose to tackle the growing water scarcity crisis inthe country?

Rectification of Indus Water Treaty

742 SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) what has been the outcome of the meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission held in Delhi on the sharing of water under the Indus Water Treaty between India and Pakistan;
- (b) in what manner the Indus Water Treaty has put India to a disadvantageous position; and
- (c) in what manner Government to rectify the situation?

Memorandum From NPCC employees

743. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN : SHRI GAYA SINGH :

Will the Minister of Water Resources be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Union representing the employees of National Projects Construction Corporation;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to inquire into the corruption charges levelled and disciplinary action intaked against those who are found guilty?

Sharing of Water between Tamil Nadu and Kerala

- 744 SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER OF RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the term of agreement on Parambikulam -Aliyar river water has expired;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether any step has been taken for evising the term of agreement between Tamil Nadu and Korelo:
- (c) the quantity of actual water share being allotted to Sholayar river from-Tamil Nadu;
- (d) whether Government are aware that the Government of Tamil Nadu failed to allot the due share of water admissible to Kerala:
- (e) whither Government would intervene in the matter and urge the Tamil Nadu Government to share the actual quantity of water due to Kerala; and
 - (f) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

Exemption proposal of Kharland activities of Konkan

- 745. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Maharashtra Government has requested the Ministry of Water Resources for exemption of Kharland activities of konkan area of Maharashtra from Coastal Regulation Zone; and
- (b) if so, the Government's response thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Augmentation of ground water in Delhi

- 746.SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether rain harvesting ofers a great potential for augmenting ground water resources for the capital and oher drought prone areas of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Authority has assessed the extent of water augmentation potential of rain in Delhi and other States; if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken for effectively harvesting rain water for augmenting ground water resources in Delhi and other states during the last two years and how far rain water has been diverted for augmenting ground water resources so far in Delhi and other States?

World Bank loan for Irrigation and water projects of Rajasthan

†747. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 14 crore for irrigation and water management project of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the number of farmers to be benefited from the same; and
- (c) the number of persons who will get employment with the implementation of this project?

Declaring Narmada Project as National Project

748. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any proposal to declare Narmada Project as National Project; and
 - (b) if so, by when?

Ground water level in Karnataka

- 749. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are aware of the alarmingly decreasing ground water levels in some districts of Karnataka;
- (b) if so, whether Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal requesting to take necessary steps to stabilize the ground watr levels in some districts of Karnataka; and
- (c) if so, the details of the projects and the action taken by Government in this regard?

New Delhi; The 17th July, 2002 Asadha 26, 1924 (Saka) $R.C.\ TRIPATHI, \\ \textit{Secretary-General}.$

INDEX

(Ministry-wise)

Development of North Eastern : 441, 442,

Region

Civil Aviation : 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 601, 602,

603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620,

621, 622, 623,

Commerce and Industry : 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632,

633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639,

 $\textbf{Finance and Company Affairs} \hspace{1.5cm} : \hspace{.5cm} 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, \\$

649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692,

 $\textbf{Petroleum and Natural Gas} \hspace*{0.2in} : \hspace*{0.2in} 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, \\$

702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719,

720, 721, 722,

Tourism and Culture : 723, 724, 725, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730,

731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738,

Water Resources : 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747,

748, 749.