

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Monday, the August 23, 2004/Bhadrapada 1, 1926 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Culture; Development of North-Eastern Region; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Human Resource Development; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development; Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation)

Total number of questions—155

Stand taken by India on WTO talks

1934. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had threatened to walk
away from biased WTO Agreement as
reported in print media, if so, the details
thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that adequate
ground work was not done for the WTO
talks;

(c) the steps taken to involve other
lesser developed countries to present a joint
stand at the WTO talks; and

(d) the details of the steps proposed by
Government to avoid taking postures which
cannot be sustained in the long run?

Export of agri products

1935. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a rise or fall

in exports of the agri products to various
world markets;

(b) the details thereof for the last
5 years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government plan to open
new markets for exports of agri products;
and

(d) the steps Government propose to
ensure the growth of agri products to
compete in the world markets?

Free movement of workers under WTO

†1936. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether in the recent meeting of the
World Trade Organisation, while preparing
a draft of an agreement related to expansion
of future trade, the Indian delegation along-
with proposal of discussing removal of
trade bans had also placed a proposal to
consider removing ban on the movement of
the labourers;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi

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

Revised WTO agreement

1937. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the revised "framework" agreement on global trade finalized at the World Trade Organisation meeting at Geneva recently;
- (b) the extent to which India's interest has been protected in agriculture and goods; and
- (c) the steps being initiated to make the Indian agriculture globally competitive in the final trade regime likely to emerge?

Flower exports to Asian markets

1938. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

- (a) whether Government are aware of the potential of flower exports to the Asian markets; and
- (b) if so, the steps Government have taken to facilitate flower businessmen to export to the Asian markets?

India's share in world trade

1939. SHRI BALAWANT *alias* BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India's share in the world exports which was 1.5 per cent at Independence, has, as per the latest records, come down to mere 0.8 per cent;

(b) if so, whether Government have lately gone into the causes of such a drastic decline;

(c) what are the main items the exports whereof has largely suffered; and

(d) whether any new policy or strategy has been worked out to restore India's due place in the world market?

Indo-EU Free Trade Agreement

1940. SHRIMATI PREMA

CARIAPPA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Indian Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested setting up of a joint study group to look into the feasibility of Free Trade Agreement between India and the European Union;

(b) whether this move is aimed at enhancing and deepening India's trade relations with the EU;

(c) if so, whether any concrete agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

Trade pact with Singapore

1941. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether the Chambers of Commerce and Industry have urged Government to have an early trade pact with Singapore;

(b) whether a two day summit was organised by the Singapore Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in association with the Mumbai based Indian Merchant's Chamber;

(c) if so, whether India and Singapore have signed a trade agreement; and

(d) if so, what are their aims and objects and to what extent this would be helpful for both?

Trade ties with Israel

1942. SHRI MOOLCHAND

MEENA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and 16 other organisations have urged Government to improve trade links with Israel;

(b) if so, the trade between India and Israel between 2002-03;

(c) to what extent the FICCI wants to further increase it;

(d) whether FICCI and various organisations have signed MOUs for cooperation with various organisations and manufacturers association of Israel; and

(e) if so, to what extent India and Israel have signed agreement to improve the trade during 2004-05?

Import of medical equipments

1943. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of misuse of the ten-year limit rule by importers of refurbished medical equipment wherein obsolete and outdated equipment is being imported and released from the cargo terminals at Delhi, IGI Airport and Mumbai Airport;

(b) whether there has been a sharp upsurge in imports of outdated and obsolete video processors and endoscopes during the last four months through under invoicing and submission of fake chartered engineers certificates;

(c) the steps being taken to verify the actual date of manufacture by cross checking with the authorized dealers of such companies; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds for export promotion

†1944. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 450 crores to encourage exports; and

(b) if so, the procedure for selection of the exporters and allocation of funds?

Crisis in Indian tea industry

†1945. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any decline in the demand of Indian tea in the international market;

(b) whether the industry is suffering from a crisis;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the steps Government propose to improve the condition of the tea industry; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to improve the quality and productivity of tea?

Plight of industries in Madhya Pradesh

†1946. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industries and business in Madhya Pradesh is in bad shape;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to establish new industries in the State?

Trade Promotion Organisation Complex at Madurai and Coimbatore

1947. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give financial assistance to the Government of Tamil Nadu for setting up of Trade Promotion Organisation Complex at Madurai and Coimbatore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Karnataka Light Soil tobacco crop

1948. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Light Soil tobacco crop for the coming season is likely

to be lower than last year due to failure of backing rains during the month of July, 2004;

(b) whether the KLS tobacco growers in Mysore region had anticipated a bumper KLS crop this year based on the normal rainfall, have since scaled down the yield expectations; and

(c) whether considering the huge export earning potential of KLS tobacco, Government would provide special incentives for KLS tobacco growers in the State?

Export of software services

1949. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken or propose to take for inclusion of software services under the guidelines issued for assistance for development of exports infrastructure and other allied activities scheme by which funds would be allocated on the basis of export performance excluding the export of software services, which is fetching more foreign exchange reserves, inspite of having a very poor infrastructure which is a major deterrent for its development; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

India's stand on WTO talks

1950. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India could hardly make a common cause with US or European Union on its association with WTO;

(b) whether he would also agree that

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the question of protection of community of farmers was very delicate and needed careful handling; and

(c) if so, whether he would take the house into confidence on this vital question?

WTO talks

†1951. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the conclusion of WTO discussions;

(b) the developed countries who have agreed to reduce subsidy in agriculture sector; and

(c) the date by which these developed countries have announced reduction in such subsidy?

Proposal by G-20 on agriculture

1952. SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the proposal made by G-20 countries in WTO meeting at Sao Paulo regarding agriculture; and

(b) whether Government have analysed the stand of America and European Union and their reaction to the G-20 proposal?

Fiscal incentives in SEZs

1953. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cease the mandatory eligibility condition of physical presence in the Special Economic Zones to qualify for the fiscal incentives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria laid down for the fresh investment and the minimum export turnover in SEZs?

WTO talks on agriculture

1954. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Brazil, China and South Africa have expressed their Support for early resumption of WTO talks on agricultural subsidies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to impose countervailing duties on the subsidised agri imports from US and EU; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Economic Cooperation Agreement with Singapore

1955. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the negotiations on a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement between India and Singapore;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the last week of September 2003, fourth round official meeting was held;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to finalise the details; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Free trade agreement with Thailand

†1956. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed any Free Trade Agreement with Thailand, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that Bangkok, the capital of Thailand is a centre of activities of several terrorist outfits operating in India and keeping in view this fact would it not adversely affect the trade relations between both the countries; and

(c) by when a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement would come into effect between India and Thailand and the areas which would be commercially benefited by them?

Rise in exports

†1957. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been 29 per cent increase in exports during May, 2004;

(b) if so, the factors behind the increase; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to maintain this growth?

Market Access Initiative Scheme

1958. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to reply to the Unstarred Question 10 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th July, 2004, and state:

(a) to what extent the Market Access

Initiative Scheme which became operational in the Tenth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 552 crores helped export marketing and what are the sales promotional activities undertaken since its inception;

(b) the funds released and utilised under the Market Development Scheme since its inception; and

(c) whether Government are thinking of replacing the Market Development Scheme with the Market Access Initiative Scheme?

Marine Products Export Development Authority

1959. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has been constituted by Government;

(b) the names of members of the MPEDA;

(c) whether it is a fact that the same firms and the same people have been nominated regularly on MPEDA;

(d) whether any effort would be made to ensure that such nominees get a break from being on the MPEDA Board; and

(e) the steps proposed to broad base this organisation?

Differences between WTO member countries

1960. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the member countries of the WTO are sharply divided over further

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

reforms and liberalisation of agriculture particularly on the nature and extent of reduction in trade-distorting domestic support and improvements in market access;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent these differences have been ironed out in the Geneva Conference and in what manner and subject to what conditions the interests of agriculture sector of the developing countries have been protected?

Protection of domestic industry

1961. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to protect the domestic industry while signing the Free Trade Agreements at the Bangkok Summit held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Export of tiger prawn

1962. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand for tiger prawn abroad; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to train farmers on the methods of producing high quality prawn and tap the increasing demand for prawn especially in Japan, U.K. and the U.S. to boost exports?

Waivers for statutory requirements

1963. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons due to which several Export Promotion Councils and Trade Associations have been permitted to waive statutory requirements;

(b) if so, the details of such waivers allowed during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether Government are aware that such waivers lead to concentration of power in hands of few persons and democratic process is broken?

Abolitions of Central Sales Tax

1964. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether exporters have requested for abolishing levy of Central Sales Tax imposed by the State Government on inputs required for export production under deemed exports;

(b) whether Government have examined the matter; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

Competition in global rice market

1965. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thailand's long-grained aromatic jasmine rice dominates the global rice market as a cheaper substitute for Basmati rice;

(b) whether Pakistan, India's rival in global rice market, is trying for concessional duty regime in the European Union; and

(c) if so, Government's plans to counter stiff competition posed by Thailand and Pakistan in global rice market?

Human hair export

1966. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether holy shrine of Lord Venkateswara in Tirupati offers more than twenty thousand Kgs. of human hair for export;

(b) whether in the recent past several rabbis (Jewish Priests) issued an edict banning wigs made in India from human hair on religious grounds; and

(c) if so, whether there has been any adverse impact on the export of human hair-wigs?

Night viewing of Taj Mahal

1967. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that night viewing of Taj Mahal was discontinued two decades ago and currently entry to Taj Mahal is allowed only from sunrise till sunset;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has received a proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh seeking permission to keep the Taj Mahal open for the visitors at night for five nights a month;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) Government's reaction thereto?

Decaying of Surya Temple of Katarmal in Uttaranchal

†1968. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

the fact that Surya Temple of Katarmal at Almora in Uttaranchal is constantly decaying; and

(b) if so, the details of the action plan for preservation of the temple and arresting decay?

Permission for sound and light shows

1969. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received by Government for giving permission to conduct sound and light show at the thousand pillared temple in Warrangal district of the State;

(b) if so, when such a proposal was received by Government; and

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

Recognition to Qauwali

1970. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Qauwali is a very popular and traditional form of vocal music in the country and if so, what Government have done to promote and help this form of music;

(b) how many qauwals, who perform day and night at most of sufi-sants mausoleums have been given any kind of assistance by Government; and

(c) how many of them were given Padm-Shree and any other recognition from Government so far?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Excavation in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry

1971. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have planned to take-up a major excavation at Arikamedu in Pondicherry;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the funding of the project; and

(c) the details in chronological order regarding the excavations made so far in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry?

World Heritage Monuments

1972. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has declared the Brihadisvara temple of Tangaikondadilapuram in Permbadur district and the Airavatesvara temple of Darasuram in Thanjavur district as World Heritage Monuments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had requested the UNESCO to declare more monuments in the country as World Heritage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Opening of Qutub Minar to public

1973. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the first floor of the Qutub Minar was slated to be opened to the public by May, 2004 but the

opening is becoming a remote possibility each day;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to the Director, ASI, its implementation is difficult;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in opening Qutub Minar to public; and

(d) the action taken or propose to be taken by Government in this regard?

Indo-Pak Cultural relations

1974. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day session has been held in Delhi on the 3rd and 4th August, 2004 between the Culture Secretaries of India and Pakistan on the promotion of friendly exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken to enhance the pilgrim travel to temples, mosques and Gurudwaras in both the countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what other matters and issues have been discussed and decisions taken during this two-day session?

Celebration of birth of Khalsa

1975. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the grant sanctioned by Government for celebration of 300th year of the birth of Khalsa in 1999;

(b) the details of the schemes under which this money was spent;

(c) the money lying unutilised out of Rs. 100 crore; and

(d) the scheme under which this unspent money is to be utilised?

Establishment of institutions in NER

1976. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Central institutions (educational professional and industries establishments) of the regional standard established in each of the North-Eastern States;

(b) the details thereof State-wise;

(c) whether care would be taken to maintain uniformity among the States in setting up of such institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Maintenance of roads

1977. SHRI T. R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the N.E.C. roads are abandoned after completion;

(b) whether these roads will be maintained by the State Government or N.E.C.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Profits of heavy industries

†1978. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that profit of

several heavy industries has increased as a result of using new and modern technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of increase in profit of each industry;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been a decrease in labour-force also in the said industries; and

(d) if so, the extent of decrease in labour force during the last five years and the financial savings as a result thereof?

Admission Policy for Commerce and Science Streams in 11th Class of Kendriya Vidyalayas

1979. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to revamp the Admission Policy of Kendriya Vidyalayas for Class 11th in Commerce and Science Streams;

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

(c) whether a large number of students were not allowed admission in the commerce stream due to non-flexibility of the admission policy;

(d) if so, the number of students who were not admitted in the Kendriya Vidyalaya, INA colony, New Delhi and whether Government would advise to admit them to save their career; and

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

Ad-hoc teachers in Delhi Colleges

1980. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of *Ad-hoc* teachers in the colleges under the Delhi University;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether all the *ad-hoc* appointees have been retained during the current academic year and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these *ad-hoc* appointees are proposed to be regularised?

the State didn't receive any amount during the year 2003-04 under the said scheme; and

(c) by when the said amount is likely to be released by Government and if not, the reasons therefor?

Policy for higher education

†1981. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to announce a separate policy for development and expansion of higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that in the absence of an education policy, the development of higher education has got stagnated since the last many years; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

Mid-day meal schemes and fire safety norms

1983. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mid-day Meal Scheme is universally being implemented in all the schools;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted at any level regarding the kitchen facility in the schools to prepare food;

(c) the authorities responsible for overseeing the basic fire safety standards for the school kitchens; and

(d) whether Government contemplate to review the fire safety measures in the school kitchens, especially in the light of the tragedy at Kumbakonam?

Funds for Balika Samridhi Yojana in Chhattisgarh

†1982. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted and the amount remained to be allotted to Chhattisgarh since its creation for the programmes being operated under the "Balika Samridhi Yojana";

(b) whether Government are aware that

Retirement benefits for School teachers

1984. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the retirement benefits including gratuity given to the Government school teachers compare unfavourably with those made available to other Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, to what extent and the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Mass Education Programme in Orissa

1985. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Mass Education Programme, the State Government of Orissa has made proposals for continuing education for the districts of Angul, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Malkangiri, Nuapada and Sambalpur etc.;

(b) if so, whether the necessary approval has been accorded in the matter and the State Government has been apprised of the position; and

(c) if not, the status of the proposal?

Safety of children in schools

1986. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has written to the Chief Ministers of the States and Union Territories urging them to ensure safety and well being of children in schools in the wake of Kumbakonam tragedy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the various States have given any assurance to take action on the above;

(d) whether Government have set up any monitoring cell to see whether the

States are following the safety norms and well being of the children in the schools;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Literacy rate

†1987. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the national literacy rate which was 52.21 per cent in the year 1991 registered an increase of just 13.17 per cent during the census of year 2001 showing national literacy rate only 65.38 per cent;

(b) if so, by when the country, with such slow rate of progress, would achieve the target of hundred per cent literacy; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any specific measures to bring the States with the least literacy rate at par with the national level indicating names of such States?

Fake Universities

†1988. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that several fake Universities are running in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the names of such Universities alongwith the estimated number of students studying there; and

(c) the reasons for which Government

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

are unable to close such institutions by imposing a ban?

Entrance examination for recognised institutions

†1989. SHRI BALAWANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

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

(a) whether any proposal for conducting a national level entrance examination for the educational institutions recognised by the All India Council for Technical Education is under Government's consideration; and

(b) if so, by when Government propose to put the same to effect?

Schools without basic facilities

1990. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many schools in the country in a deplorable state without basic facilities like school building and with thatched roof etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the schools not having building, thatched roof, play ground and trained teachers for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;

(c) the action taken to enforce safety measures in the schools in the light of the tragedy in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu in July, 2004; and

(d) whether there is any plan to ban thatched roof schools?

Self financed colleges

1991. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of self financing colleges all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of professional colleges and self financing professional colleges and the respective annual fees for the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether the competent authority would initiate guidelines/rules for controlling the fee structure and sustaining the quality/facility of education in the self financing colleges; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken?

Protection of child rights

1992. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UNICEF has launched a project for protection of child rights and promotion of universal elementary education in W. Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such projects are also proposed to be launched in other States/ areas, and if so, the details thereof?

Education Cess

1993. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has sent a proposal to the Finance Ministry

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

demanding for an additional Rs. 3,950 crores to avail of the proposed Education Cess;

(b) if yes, the details thereof; and

(c) the break-up of the funds to be utilised for various programmes such as mid-day meal scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan/secondary/higher education etc.?

Indian Institute of Family Planning and Management

1994. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian Institute of Family Planning and Management invites applications for admission to the Institute for the "MBA" and "BBA" degrees;

(b) if so, whether it is officially recognized by Government as a 'deemed university' and has been accorded the permission to confer degrees;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the precise status of the Institute and the action taken/proposed to be taken to warn the public against such institutes?

Recognition to schools

†1995. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending with the Board seeking for recognition of Schools;

(b) whether Government would consider any alternative procedure for

recognition of High Schools, which is transparent and simple; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Drop out children

†1996. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drop out children after primary and secondary education during 1998—2003, year and State-wise;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to identify the reasons for such drop out; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

Vocational schools

†1997. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government vocational schools functioning as on date and the number of students being trained in these schools per year, per school in each State;

(b) the grants provided by Government to these vocational schools during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of such schools?

Teaching in Hindi medium

†1998. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that University of Delhi has formulated a scheme not to teach all the subjects of arts faculty in Hindi medium;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reasons for neglecting the Hindi and the list of such Universities who have issued such orders; and
- (d) the action being taken by Government to prevent negligence of Hindi?

Details of Kendriya Vidyalayas

1999. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Kendriya Vidyalayas, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government have any proposal to set up any new Kendriya Vidyalayas; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Fire drill to school children

2000. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to inculcate fire drill to all the school children to save them in disasters;
- (b) if so, the instructions issued in this regard; and
- (c) the other steps being taken to make classrooms safe for young lives?

Students leaving country for education abroad

2001. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of students who passed senior secondary examination could not get admission in pursuit of higher studies in colleges in the

country and had to go to foreign countries for further studies;

- (b) if so, the number of students who went abroad for higher studies this year and their destinations; and
- (c) what options have been made available for the remaining students for higher studies?

Arunachal University

2002. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh for conversion of Arunachal University into a Central University;
- (b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) if no action has been taken so far the reasons therefor?

Admissions of SC/ST in IITs

2003. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of admission of SC, ST and other candidates in the Indian Institute of Technology, year-wise, during the last three years;
- (b) whether admission of SC and ST candidates has been very low as against the reservation of 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent, respectively;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what policy measures are being taken by Government to ensure admission of SC/ST as per the reservation policy and since when?

Funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Uttar Pradesh

‡2004. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during the year 2003-04;

(b) the amount allocated for primary education and mid-day meal during the above period; and

(c) the number of the students benefited thereby?

Madarsas under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2005. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to bring madarsas under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for the purposes of funding them from the Abhiyan funds;

(b) if so, whether the education curriculum have been brought in line with the Abhiyan curriculum; and

(c) what other steps have been taken to ensure that the Madarsas follow the prevalent modern education pattern, including adoption of the teaching patterns; and selection of teachers?

National Nutrition Mission in Chhattisgarh

2006. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that special assistance required under the

National Nutrition Mission to cater the needs of girl children and pregnant women has not yet been provided to Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, by when the funds would be released for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Female literacy rate

2007. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the female literacy rate;

(b) the reasons for low female literacy rate; and

(c) the effective measures being taken by Government in this regard?

Elementary Education System

2008. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether inadequate infrastructure, lack of trained teachers and teachers' absenteeism are major problems that plague Government Elementary Education System;

(b) whether additional funding to mitigate these problems has been allocated; and

(c) the other arrangements proposed to manage the schooling system effectively and ensure the efficient use of education cess proceeds?

Quota for poor kids in public schools

‡2009. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

are likely to bring legislation for fixing quota for poor kids in public schools especially in Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore;

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

Courses on Water Management and Water Harvesting

2010. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC has decided to introduce courses in Water Management and Water Harvesting in the universities;

(b) if so, whether the syllabus for courses has been finalised;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether any expert committee is going to be constituted to look into the finalisation of the syllabus; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

National Language Promotion Bureau

2011. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider the question of formation of a National Language Promotion Bureau for the unscheduled languages of the country with a view to protect their original languages;

(b) whether there would be any policy for proper documentation of tribal languages; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Evening shifts in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2012. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has taken a decision to start evening shift in some Kendriya Vidyalayas in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Kendriya Vidyalayas where evening shifts are likely to be started;

(c) the number of students likely to be given admission in evening shifts in Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(d) whether it is also proposed to start evening shifts in the remaining Kendriya Vidyalayas and if so, the details thereof?

Action plan to control dowry deaths

2013. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government keep a record of dowry deaths;

(b) if so, the number of dowry related deaths during the last one year; and

(c) Government's action plan to control the rising trends of dowry deaths with a view to boost morale of the women?

Dowry system

2014. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that demand of dowry either at the time of marriage or thereafter, is an insult to Indian women-hood; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to preserve the honour, dignity and

prestige of Indian women, so that they are not harassed in the name of dowry?

Literacy rate

2015. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the literacy rate in the country;
- (b) the lowest and highest literacy State of the country according to the latest report; and
- (c) the efforts made by his Ministry to improve the literacy of the masses?

Promotion and development of management education

2016. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to divest AICTE of the responsibility relating to regulation grant of approval and recognition of management courses;
- (b) whether Government propose to set up a separate regulatory body for regulating promotion and development of management education exclusively on the lines of AICTE;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Centrally sponsored scheme for teachers-education

†2017. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be

pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the resolution expressed in the National Education Policy and Action Programme for the re-structuring of teacher-education in 1986-87, a Centrally sponsored scheme was introduced in 1987 in which 5 norms had been fixed;

(b) if so, the States and the number of districts wherein this Centrally sponsored scheme was implemented; and

(c) the latest achievements thereof?

National languages as medium of examination

2018. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "National Institute of Open Schooling" conducted by HRD is encouraging the children to write examinations in their mother tongue which are the national languages mentioned in Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India; and

(b) if not, whether Government would immediately make arrangement to include Tamil and other national languages as medium from the current academic year for general and vocational courses as more than 25 lakh Tamil people are living as minority in Delhi?

Stree Shakti Scheme

2019. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Government's notice that the Karnataka Government had promoted one lakh women self-help groups under the "Stree Shakti" scheme;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has sought any additional grants;

(c) if so, the amount thereof; and

(d) the present status of the above proposal?

Campaign India Shining

2020. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which Government adopted the proposal of launching 'India Shining'/'Bharat Uday' campaigns and the authority that sanctioned the spending of funds from the State Exchequer;

(b) the names of Ministries, Departments and PSUs that carried out the campaign and the number of advertisements; and

(c) the amount spent on the campaign in both print and electronic media?

Applications for DTH services

2021. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Direct to Home (DTH) applications received so far with the names of the companies;

(b) whether all the applicants have deposited the Entry Fee of Rs. 10 crore;

(c) whether approval of FIPB and other agencies have been cleared in all the cases; and

(d) if so, the reasons for withholding the Letter of Intent (LoI) of the companies who have fulfilled all the norms/guidelines and the steps being taken to issue LoI?

Demands of cable operators

2022. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had received any memorandum from the cable TV operators regarding appointment of an independent broadcasting regulatory authority and implementation of Conditional Access System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Cable TV operators have also threatened to effect hefty hike in service charges throughout the country from the next months; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

World Bank help to broadcasters

2023. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL : DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank is planning to workout with the broadcasters including those from India, to spread the "development" message;

(b) if so, whether Bank has clarified that it is not providing direct funding to broadcasters but there is a possibility of helping broadcasters with some of its existing resources; and

(c) what are the points that the World Bank is considering to support broadcasters and whether Government have examined these points?

Surplus staff

2024. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry proposes to down-size its departments; and

(b) if so, the details of the action plan indicating as to how the surplus staff would be absorbed in the alternative jobs?

Uplinking of Dehradun DD Kendra

†2025. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Dehradun Doordarshan Kendra with the other 'Kendras' including Delhi, through uplinking; and

(b) if so, by when this 'Kendra' would be developed as fully upgraded 'Kendra' and be provided the facility of uplinking?

Urdu channel

2026. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of TV channels commenced by DD in various languages;

(b) the reasons for not having any channels in Urdu;

(c) the time given to Urdu programmes by various channels of Doordarshan; and

(d) the reasons for ignoring Urdu, which is a language written and spoken from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and has strong international appeal?

Screening of feature films

2027. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made it mandatory that screening of any feature or documentary film in the Film Festivals, would require Central Board of Film Certification and the films shot in the digital format would become eligible only if they are intended to be released in the celluloid format; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Training by Pune Film Institute

†2028. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the segments in which Film Institute, Pune is imparting training;

(b) the number of students getting training and the number of staff members working in this Institute;

(c) the number of hostels in the Institute and the amount spent by Government thereon during the last three years; and

(d) whether there is any plan to restructure the training course for acting, and if so, the details thereof?

Registration of newspapers/ periodicals

2029. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the titles of newspapers/periodicals already registered with the Registrar of News papers of India, are kept secret;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the number of titles so blocked, language-wise, under each category?

Losses to DD and AIR

†2030. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officials of 'Doordarshan' and AIR have caused loss to the Government's exchequer amounting to Rs. 187crores; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to recover the said amount and the action taken so far against the officials responsible for this?

Fee hike by cable operators

2031. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cable operators are proposing to hike their monthly fee by 100 per cent on the ground that the broadcasters have arbitrarily increased their service charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the broadcasters suspect that the cable operators under report the number of cable connections thereby putting the broadcasters to loss; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider undertaking an independent survey to resolve the dispute and rationalise the cable fee structure with a view to providing some relief to the public?

Publication of foreign news papers and magazines

2032. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign news papers and news magazines being published in the country; and

(b) what are the guidelines issued to such news papers or magazines?

Sexual harassment in Media organisations

2033. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints of sexual harassment in media organisations like Prasar Bharati are on the increase;

(b) if so, how many such complaints have been received from the 31st July, 2003 to 30th June, 2004 and how many have been solved;

(c) whether these percentage of such complaints is higher than during the corresponding periods of years 2001-02 and 2002-03; and

(d) the steps taken to eliminate such complaints during the coming years?

Registration of News papers

2034. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of names issued by the Registrar of News papers of India on an average every month;

(b) whether it is a fact that requests for names come from all parts of the country;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government had given clear cut directions on which names should be issued and which are banned; and

(d) if so, the details of the directions given to the RNI regarding names for news papers and journals to be issued by the RNI?

Implementation of CAS

2035. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been approached by the cable operators to reconsider implementation of the Conditional Access System (CAS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what about the pay channel factors; and

(d) to what extent Government are prepared to accede to the request of the cable operators while protecting interests of the subscribers?

Special Benches of High Courts

2036. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special benches of High Courts proposed to be set up in various States, during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the locations thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for the purpose; and

(d) the amount earmarked, sanctioned and spent under the scheme?

Electoral reforms

2037. SHRI T.S. BAJWA:
SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA
KIDWAI:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

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

(a) whether the Election Commission has sent a report to Government recommending a series of measures for effecting electoral reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to initiate the process of a national consensus in the matter and take further follow-up action in regard thereto?

Ban on entry of criminals in politics

†2038. DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD :
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

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

(a) whether the Election Commissions has requested Government to check the entry of criminals in politics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken a decision to take action in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be implemented?

Women's Reservation Bill

2039. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have pledged in the Common Minimum Programme to introduce a legislation providing for one-third reservation for women in the Central and the State Legislatures;

(b) if so, whether it has been decided to introduce the long-pending Women's Reservation Bill in the second phase of the Budget Session; and

(c) whether the Bill would be introduced in original form or with riders like a Kangaroo quota (provisions for an OBC quota within the quota)?

Pending criminal cases in Supreme Court

†2040. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of criminal cases from the States of UP, HP, Punjab and Haryana are pending with the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the cases are likely to be disposed off?

Preparation of foolproof electoral rolls

2041. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has announced a slew of guidelines to ensure that no eligible citizen is denied the right to vote;

(b) if so, whether the Election Commission plans to use geographic information system in the Postal Department for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details of the guidelines?

Recording of evidence through video conferencing

2042. SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to record statements/evidence of under trials through video conferencing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful in speedy trials; and

(d) whether Government are considering use of video-conferencing in every court for speedy trial?

Pending cases in Allahabad High Court

†2043. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the courts under the jurisdiction of Allahabad High Court and Azamgarh District Court in which cases are pending for the last 3, 5, 7 and 10 years; and

(b) the steps being taken/guidelines being issued for speedy verdict/disposal of the above cases?

Cases pending in Courts

2044. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of the cases pending in Supreme Court and various High Courts;

(b) the number of cases pending for the last five years;

(c) whether Government have identified

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the reasons for the pendency of the cases for such a long time; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take for early disposal of the cases?

Photo identity cards

2045. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Election Commission of India to complete issuance of the Electro Photo Identity Cards (EPIC); and

(b) the number of voters not issued EPIC so far?

Practice by relatives of High Court Judges

2046. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

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

(a) whether the All-India Bar Association has made any representation to Government seeking to expunge Rule 6 from Chapter 2 of Bar Council of India manual which provides that relatives of a High Court Judge can not practice in that High Court; and

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

Amendment in constitution to change procedure for appointment of judges

2047. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN :
SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM:

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

(a) whether Government are intending to restore the position of sending a Panel for appointment of judges in High Court from the State Government as existed before the Supreme Court judgement in Indrasahani's case; and

(b) if so, whether an Amendment to the Constitution would be proposed to clarify the judgement and thus reduce the vacancy of judges in High Court?

Scholarships for SCs/STs

†2048. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision of awarding scholarships to the students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the amount allotted for scholarships during the last three years State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the amount spent out of the said allotted amount?

District Disabled Resettlement Centre Scheme

†2049. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Chhattisgarh where the District Disabled Resettlement Centre (DDRC) scheme is running alongwith the specific steps being taken by Government for implementation of this scheme in the remaining districts;

(b) the amount allotted so far under the DDRC scheme since 2000-01 year-wise ; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure the timely financial assistance to the State?

National Rural Disabled Rehabilitation Programme

†2050. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the assistance under the National Rural Disabled Rehabilitation Programme (NRPD) has been provided to Chhattisgarh only in the year 2001-02;

(b) the districts in which this scheme is in operation;

(c) the steps being taken to implement this scheme in rest of the districts; and

(d) by when the Central contribution would be provided and the reasons for the delay?

Reservation for physically handicapped

2051. SHRI DHARAM PAL
SABHARWAL:
SHRIMATI KAMLA
MANHAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that section 39 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, protection of Rights and Full participations) Act, 1995 makes it mandatory for all Government/aided vocational and educational institutions to reserve minimum three per cent seats for the physically challenged persons;

(b) if so, the number and names of the central vocational/educational institutions

complying with the above statutory provision in various States, particularly in Chhattisgarh; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the institutions which are not abiding by the above dispensation?

Benefits to persons suffering from Autism and Cerebral Palsy

2052. SHRI ANAND SHARMA :
SHRIMATIPREMA
CARIAPPA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM
KSHATRIYA:

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

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to extend the persons with Disability (Equal opportunity, Protection of Rightful Participation) Act, 1995 to the persons suffering from Autism and Cerebral Palsy; and

(b) if so, the details of the benefits and by when the coverage under the Act would be extended to such persons?

Courses for persons suffering from Autism and Cerebral Palsy

2053. PROF. ALKA BALRAM
KSHATRIYA;
SHRIMATIPREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to set up Vocational cum Residential Courses for the people suffering from Autism, Cerebral Palsy and related developmental disorders;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the implementing agencies and the annual allocation of funds; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

Reservation for SCs/STs and OBCs

2054. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in some States the percentage in reservation has reached the higher limit of 50 per cent in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and for this reason the reservation for Other Backward Classes cannot be enforced there;

(b) if so, the names of such States; and

(c) as the people belonging to Other Backward Classes remain outside the purview of the reservation facilities owing to the legal barriers, whether Government would come forward to remove these barriers?

The Parents, Dependents Maintenance Act

2055. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Parents, Dependents Maintenance Act" has been introduced by the Himachal Pradesh Government to ensure that old aged people and dependents are taken care by their children;

(b) if so, whether Government would assure of introducing such an Act through Parliament, based on ever-growing cruelty of neglect of aged parents and dependents by their children, throughout the Nation due to inhuman degradation of moral values; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Funds to organisations for handicapped

†2056. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Non Government and Government Organisations being funded by the Centre for assistance of the handicapped;

(b) the details of the assistance granted, organisation-wise and year-wise during the last three years;

(c) whether the said grant is properly reviewed and monitored;

(d) if so, whether the requisite results have been achieved and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of C.A.G. Reports in this regard?

Drug abuse in rural areas

2057. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a survey conducted by Government, it was revealed that drug abuse is higher in the rural areas;

(b) whether according to the survey there was a low involvement level, bad treatment and under utilisation of the existing services;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said survey has suggested programmes for the vulnerable groups to monitor the progress; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Welfare of handicapped persons in Chhattisgarh

†2058. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed any experimental project in Chhattisgarh for the welfare of handicapped persons with the collaboration of the Rehabilitation Council of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated for the said purpose?

Issuing of Caste Certificate to SCs

†2059. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH KESRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any simplified alternative for issuing of 'Caste Certificate' to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes are asked to furnish domicile certificate for the last 50 years while issuing 'Income Certificate' to them;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government are aware that a large number of students are deprived of all Government's facilities due to complexities involved in issuing of 'Caste Certificate'?

Income certificate for scholarship to SC students

†2060. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH KESRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made it compulsory to submit income certificate by the Scheduled Caste students to avail scholarship offered to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government would issue clear instructions to all the States in this regard?

Financial assistance for pre and post matric students

2061. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government release financial assistance to the State Government for construction of hostels, grant of scholarships, etc., for pre and post matric students belonging to BCs/OBCs;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise and activity-wise;

(c) whether any requests received from the Government of Karnataka for assistance to implement various projects are pending for consideration; and

(d) if so, the present status of each proposal?

Reservation for economically backward classes

2062. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government wish to extend the benefits of reservation to the Economically Backward Classes in lines of the thinking of the NDA Government;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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

(c) the plans chalked out to give effect to the policy and the targets date set for bringing it into force?

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the achievements; and

(d) the ways and means to be adopted to further improve and be more effective in dealing with the tribal problems and affairs?

Financial and development corporations for SCs/STs

†2063. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the financial and development corporations set up by Government for the economic dependence of the persons belonging to SCs/STs, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Physically Handicapped along with the date of their inception and authorised capital;

(b) whether Government have made available the allotted and declared authorised share capital of these corporations;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any scheme for these corporations to come out from the financial crisis as the main source of their income, which is interest received on share capital has been shrinking due to continuous decrease in rate of interest?

Budget allocation for tribal affairs

2064. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Budget allocation made during the last three years;

(b) the schemes his Ministry directly take up and the schemes through the State Governments;

Funds to State Governments

2065. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the grants given by Government to some States under Article 275 of the Constitution State-wise, during last three years;

(b) the basis and the manner in which the social funds are normally released; and

(c) the mechanism to ensure proper utilisation of the funds?

Vocational training institutes in the country

2066. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Vocational Training Institutes in the country under 100 per cent Central assistance and State-wise break up;

(b) the number of such institutes in tribal areas of Assam; and

(c) the Government's decision to establish more such institutes, if any?

Shortage of accommodation

2067. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

shortage of accommodation for the Central Government employees, particularly in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to construct a number of dwelling units to meet the shortfall; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the schedule of construction?

Complaints from V. P. House complex

2068. SHRIMATI KAMLA
MANHAR:
SHRI DHARAM PAL
SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and nature of complaints received during the last two years in regard to falling of water on ground floor quarters from balconies in V.P. House, repair of roads inside the V.P. House complex and water seepage from shafts under C.P.W.D. Enquiry and the action taken on each of the complaints; and

(b) the reasons for not taking any action on the complaints lodged by the V.P. House residents?

Yamuna Bio-diversity Park

2069. SHRI BALAWANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bio-diversity Park named "Yamuna Bio-diversity Park" is being constructed in Jharoda-Burari of North Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the area of the

park, *flora and fauna* to be preserved and the time schedule for the completion of the project?

Metro Transport

2070. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any expressions of interest from any State/district administration on behalf of any of the metros of the country, regarding construction of Metro transport similar to the Delhi Metro;

(b) if so, whether there are any plans or proposals to extend the Metro transport to such metros;

(c) if so, the time limit for implementation of the scheme;

(d) whether some of the States have expressed their inability to implement the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Contaminated drinking water in Delhi

2071. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a number of colonies of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, water pipelines, which were laid about two decades ago, have been damaged to a considerable degree which often result in the contamination of drinking water;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to replace them in the near future and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a number of incidents of

Jaundice and other water borne diseases reported recently and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

Urban Mapping Scheme

2072. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Urban Mapping Scheme has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of the cities in Tamil Nadu has been included in the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Scheme for urban development and beautification

†2073. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new scheme for urban development and beautification;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for implementation of the said scheme?

Shifting of Government offices

2074. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision several years ago that such Government offices, which are not

required to be stationed in Delhi, are to be shifted to the National Capital Region (NCR); and

(b) if so, the reasons for Government not having been able to shift such offices out of Delhi to decongest the city?

Construction of Shopping Mall

2075. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to intervention of the influential people, the plan, to construct the Metro Station on Najafgarh Road near Raja Garden crossing, was changed and the land has been allotted to MGF and the construction for the Shopping Mall has already begun; and

(b) whether Government have contemplated any inquiry to be conducted as to how the allotment has been made to MGF?

Contaminated drinking water in Central Delhi

2076. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of Jaundice were reported from Central Delhi under the jurisdiction of NDMC in June/July, 2004, due to the supply of contaminated drinking water in the area;

(b) if so, whether inquiry was held to fix responsibility for supply of contaminated drinking water in the area; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

DDA land usurped by GDA

2077. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ghaziabad Development Authority, in league with the private builders, has usurped and occupied land belonging to Delhi Development Authority on the Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border;

(b) if so, the area of the land occupied by GDA and converted into a residential colony;

(c) the action taken so far by DDA to retrieve the land; and

(d) whether any involvement/connivance of DDA Officers and staff in the matter has been investigated into and if so, the findings thereof and the action taken in the matter?

Covering of drain in Dwarka

2078. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a drain (nallah) is flowing between the rear boundary wall of DDA HIG Flats, Sector-13, Pocket-B, Dwarka, PH-II and rear boundary wall of Pragati Public School causing serious health hazard and a breeding ground for mosquitoes and its ill-effects on the health of residents and school children;

(b) if so, the remedial action taken by Government to cover this drain; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Difference in prices of Flats in Dwarka

2079. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a draw of lot

for Dwarka DDA SFS HIG Flats, in Sector-13, Pocket-B, was held in February, 2003 and the draw of remaining flats in the same sector was held in March, 2004 but there is a difference of price in both the draws;

(b) if so, what is the difference of amount and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any representation in this regard, if so, the action taken thereon; and

(d) by when the excess amount would be refunded to the affected allottees and if not, the reasons therefor?

Financial assistance to Chhattisgarh

2080. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the capital cities of newly formed States-Chandigarh, Bhubaneshwar, Gandhinagar, Dispur etc. were built with special assistance from the Central Government;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider providing financial assistance as demanded by Chhattisgarh to build new capital city; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Demands of CPWD Group 'B' and 'C' Associations

2081. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CPWD Group 'B' and 'C' recognized Engineers Associations were agitated during the month of July, 2004 for their various demands;

(b) if so, what are the demands; and

(c) what action Government are taking to fulfil their demands?

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

2082. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of water supply schemes sanctioned and completed, State-wise, under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) as on the 31st March, 2004;

(b) the amount of Central assistance provided to the States under the scheme as on the 31st March, 2004;

(c) the targets fixed under the scheme during Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) whether any performance appraisal of the programme has been conducted to streamline its implementation?

Repair of damaged Government quarters

2083. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CPWD has recently awarded a tender for repairing of damaged Government quarters of J and H Block, Kali Bari, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that inferior quality material has been used and some quarters/Blocks are still in a very dilapidated condition;

(c) if so, details thereof and the expenditure incurred on each tender;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted about the material being used for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the action Government propose to take against the authorities?

Complaints pending with CPWD

2084. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of complaints regarding repairing of floors, plastering of walls, replacement of window glasses, doors etc. are pending with the CPWD Enquiry Service Centre, J-Block, Kali Bari, New Delhi since January, 2004 till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints are received from Block 17, J Block, Kali Bari, New Delhi but the concerned Junior engineer has not attended those complaints; and

(c) what are the reasons for not attending these complaints so far and what action Government proposes to take in this regard ?

Unemployment in metro cities

2085. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unemployment is growing at an alarming rate in the metro cities;

(b) if so, whether Government are planning to formulate any new policies to tackle the unemployment situation in all the metro cities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Scheme for urban employment and poverty alleviation

†2086. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a new scheme for creation of urban employment and poverty alleviation;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to implement the said scheme?

Grant to State Government of Maharashtra

2087. SHRI SANJAY RAJARAM RAUT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount given as grant by the Government to Maharashtra during the last three years for various projects;

(b) whether State Government of Maharashtra used this grant to the

particular project or diverted this fund to the other project; and

(c) whether Maharashtra Government has timely submitted expenditure account to the Centre?

Swarna Jayanti Urban Employment Scheme

2088. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Swarna Jayanti Urban Employment Scheme is being implemented in all the urban areas;

(b) if so, the amount allocated and released to the States during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, State-wise and the results thereof;

(c) the amount provided by Government under this scheme during 2004-05 and the norms set for releasing the earmarked amount and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to implement the scheme?

NEW DELHI;
The 17th August, 2004
Sravana 26, 1926 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X

(Ministry-wise)

Commerce and Industry	: 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966,
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Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	: 2085, 2086, 2088.