

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS
to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Friday, the April 25, 2003/Vaisakha 5, 1925 (Saka)

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

Total number of questions—155

Development of Fisheries in Madhya Pradesh

†3712. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government and
State Governments have considered any plan
to expand fisheries by mutual cooperation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Madhya Pradesh is one
among the States considering expansion of
this industry; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Grants for Macro Management Mode of Agriculture

3713. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are sanctioning
funds for "Macro Management Mode of
Agriculture" scheme aimed to boost
agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria
adopted for such sanction; and

(c) the other steps taken for
diversification of crops for more
remunerative prices to farmers?

Request for banning cow slaughter

†3714. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been sent by
Government to all the concerned departments
to bring a bill in the Parliament for imposing
a country-wide ban on cow slaughter;

(b) if so, the details of such request;

(c) the names of the departments to
which such request was sent together with
the dates on which it was sent;

(d) whether any time-limit for completion
of work has been mentioned in this request;
and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Campaign for diverting area for cash crops

3715. SHRI RAMACHANDRA
KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched
any Special campaign to divert area from
cereal crops to high value cash crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with
the target fixed for various States for the
next three years;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the grants given to various States under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture Scheme during the last three years; and

(d) how far the campaign has been successful in increasing area under cash crops or high value crops like Basmati rice, fruits etc.?

Allocations for oilseeds Production

†3716. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN
SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an oilseed Production Programme is being run in 400 districts of 28 States to boost production of oilseed in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an annual amount is also spent by Government under this programme; and

(d) if so, the amount allocated for the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 and the actual amount spent on the programme?

Opening a Dairy in Himachal Pradesh

3717. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open a Dairy in Himachal Pradesh during the current financial year;

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

(c) the details of financial allocations made, so far, in this respect; and

(d) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

Assistance to Maharashtra for development and promotion of agricultural projects

3718. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given by the Union Government to the Maharashtra Government for the development and promotion of agricultural projects during the last two years;

(b) whether the fund granted by the Union Government for the purpose has been fully utilised by the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Premium of agricultural insurance

†3719. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures have been suggested to make the premium rates of agricultural insurance reasonable and whether the farmers are aware of the agricultural insurance premium;

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

(c) the reaction of Government on these suggestions?

Accountability in IARI

3720. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-
RAIAH:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA
RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to CAG report number 5 of 2002, IARI's objective of Centre for Academic Excellence could not be achieved in full despite the fact that the strength of faculty members during

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

1995-2001 was three times the number of students admitted for different courses;

- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) the number of in-house projects during 1995—2001 and the number of projects for which final reports were available;
- (d) whether objectives in many of the projects were only partially achieved resulting in unfruitful expenditure; and
- (e) if so, how Government propose to impose accountability in IARI?

**Setting up of regional centre of the
National Institute of Organic
Farming in Karnataka**

3721. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a regional centre of the National Institute of Organic Farming in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, whether any place has been identified for this purpose in the State;
- (c) what are the advantages of having this proposed Centre in the State; and
- (d) the amount proposed to be spent for Centre every year?

Contract Farming Law

3722. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to frame a Contract Farming Law to regulate the working conditions of the farm labour;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the proposed law is likely to be put in place?

Policy for rain fed farming

3723. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have formulated a comprehensive policy for rain-fed farming in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which such a policy would be in place?

Promotion of Tissue Culture

3724. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the centrally sponsored schemes through which tissue culture is being promoted in different States;
- (b) whether Government have taken any steps in that regard in Orissa; and
- (c) if so, the details of major fruit crops in that State identified for tissue culture?

**Production, storage, import/export of
wheat, sugar, rice and pulses**

†3725. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production, consumption and surplus of wheat, sugar, rice and pulses in various States of the country during the last three years;
- (b) the total import and export of wheat, sugar, rice and pulses during the above period;
- (c) the total stock of wheat, sugar, rice and pulses in the country as on 31st March, 2003; and
- (d) per quintal import and export price of wheat, rice, sugar and pulses during the said period?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Assistance to Mango growers

3726. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unusually cold spell during the last phase of winter this year has caused enormous damage to mango trees in Hoshiarpur (Punjab) and areas around other parts of North India, especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, how far the mango fields of different varieties has been affected this year, giving comparative figures of production for the last five years; and

(c) the central assistance sought and given to mango growers to help to cope with the loss?

Krishi Vigyan Kendras in U.P.

†3727. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise details of grants extended to Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the details of programmes carried out by these kendras for the benefit of farmers?

Fall in Production of food and oil seeds

3728. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a drastic reduction in the production of vital food and oil seeds during 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether this shortage would lead to food and edible oil scarcity and consequent inflation; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by Government to meet the shortage and arrest inflation?

NAIS in Punjab

3729. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers benefited by Crop Insurance Scheme in Punjab during the year 2002-2003, district-wise; and

(b) the amount received by the farmers under this scheme and the role played by the State Government in this regard?

Expenditure on R&D for Agriculture

†3730. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the minimum, percentage of gross agricultural production which Government spend every year for the purpose of research and development related work for agricultural development and extension in the country;

(b) the details of said expenditure during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that various Committees have recommended at least one percent expenditure for this purpose;

(d) if so, the name of those Committees; and

(e) what action Government have taken for the implementation of those recommendations?

Central Dairy Research Institute in Karnal

†3731. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether calves are born at Central Dairy Research Institute, Karnal;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of he-calves/she-calves born every year;

(c) whether these calves are sold for meat by weight; and

(d) if so, their average annual number?

NCC recommendation for ban on cow slaughter

†3732. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission on Cattle had recommended to put a ban on cow slaughter in the country;

(b) if so, when did Government receive Commission's report;

(c) the effective measures taken by Government to implement the recommendation for putting a ban on cow slaughter after receiving the report; and

(d) by when Government propose to introduce the bill regarding banning of cow slaughter in future?

Legislation for cow slaughter

3733. SHRI KARNENDU
BHATTACHARJEE:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to enact legislation for imposing a total ban on cow slaughter in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been discussed with various State Governments

and if so, their response to the proposed legislation;

(d) what arrangements have been made to look after millions of stray cattle all over the country; and

(e) whether some sections of the society are opposing to this move; if so, the details thereof?

Situation assessment survey on farmers

3734. SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-
RAIAH:
SHRI EKANATH K.
THAKUR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reforms in the agriculture sector have failed to benefit the poor and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have launched the situation assessment survey on Indian farmers; and

(d) if so, the details of results indicated by the above survey?

Second Green Revolution

3735. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA
SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI GHULAM NABI
AZAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is planning to envisage second green revolution to feed the growing population;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this direction;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether the programmes have also been planned to double the farm productivity; and
- (e) the other steps proposed to ensure that food production is completed with poverty alleviation and environmental presentation?

Development of rice by IRRI

3736. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that scientists from International Rice Research Institute have developed a new variety of rice;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when it is likely to be introduced for use by public at large?

Assistance to Karnataka from NCDC

3737. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Karnataka State has availed financial assistance from National Co-operative Development Corporation for establishing co-operative sugar mills in the State;
- (b) if so, the details of financial assistance availed by the sugar mills, and its terms and conditions and the amount availed for the past three years;
- (c) whether the National Co-operative Development Corporation has extended financial assistance in different categories; and
- (d) if so, the details of categories and the

amount released for the past three years, category-wise?

Central Schemes in Uttaranchal

3738. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Centrally sponsored schemes of development of medicinal and aromatic plants, development of roots and Tuber Crops, development of Mushrooms, bee keeping, schemes for foundation and certified seed production of vegetable crops in the State of Uttaranchal;
- (b) the criteria for allotment of funds to the State; and
- (c) the amount sanctioned and utilised for the purpose so far?

Waiver of interest on crop loans

3739. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister is the only authority to take final decision on waiver of interest on crop loans for the farmers in the drought prone States;
- (b) if so, whether this issue was brought to the notice of the Prime Minister by the Agriculture Ministry and was apprised all facts about the farmers;
- (c) whether the Prime Minister has finally taken the decision;
- (d) if not, by what time final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and
- (e) to what extent it will benefit the farmers in the drought affected States?

Shortfall in cotton production

3740. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI EKANATH K.
THAKUR:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
SHRIMATI BIMBA
RAIKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cotton production in the country is expected to be the lowest in the past 8 years; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reason for the fall in production and rise in cotton prices;

(c) whether the All India Cotton Advisory Board has attributed the lower production to farmers allocating lower areas for cotton crop;

(d) the steps taken to meet the shortage and improve the cotton production; and

(e) the domestic demand for cotton at the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan?

Allocation of foodgrains to drought hit States

3741. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force on drought management decided to allocate 19.39 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for employment generation programmes in drought hit States from April to June;

(b) whether Government are aware that the allocation of foodgrains is not sufficient to meet the requirement of drought hit States;

(c) if so, whether Government will come forward to allocate more foodgrains to the drought hit States, in order to fulfil their requirement;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Drought assistance to Chhattisgarh

†3742. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the economic and food assistance sought by various drought affected State Governments particularly Chhattisgarh Government together with the date of such request;

(b) the quantum of assistance provided by Government and when; and

(c) the reasons for not providing the assistance commensurate with the requirement of the States?

Drought in Karnataka

3743. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of drought relief fund sought by Government of Karnataka;

(b) the sanctioned amount of C.R.F.; and

(c) utilisation amount of C.R.F.?

Banning production of Khesari Dal

†3744. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States banned the production as well as consumption of "Khesari Dal" on the advice of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the names of such States and since when the said ban has been imposed;

(c) whether the facts about inherent toxic content in "Khesari Dal" has been established by some scientific studies; and

(d) if so, the details of the places where the documents containing the said studies are available?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Drought relief assistance to Kerala

3745. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for not extending drought-relief assistance to Kerala though the State has been declared as drought-affected;

(b) the existing norms adopted by Government to grant financial assistance under drought relief scheme;

(c) whether Kerala Government has sought financial assistance and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are considering granting a special assistance to Kerala to undertake relief activities in drought-hit districts including agriculture sector?

Popularising Hybrid rice

3746. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI M.V.

RAJASEKHARAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering seriously for increasing the food production;

(b) if so, whether Hybrid rice is supposed to be a device for increasing the production;

(c) if not, what are the proposed new varieties;

(d) whether the Ministry considers it necessary to popularize the Hybrid rice; and

(e) if so, whether Government have constituted a committee to study the above subject?

Compensation for crop damage in A.P.

3747. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA

RAO:

SHRI C.

RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount sanctioned and released by Government to the farmers for compensation whose fields and crops were damaged due to deployment of oil/g survey/exploration staff in Andhra Pradesh

(b) whether Government have received a number of complaints regarding disbursement of compensation among farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to ensure timely payment to farmers?

Monitoring of prices of imported formulations

3748. SHRI KHAN GHUFRA ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NPPA has been fixing the prices of all imported formulations;

(b) what is the profit being allowed on such imported formulations; and

(c) how does NPPA monitor the price of imported formulations being sold at exorbitant price in the market?

Handing over of fertilizer units to private sector

†3749. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN

SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to hand over some chemicals and fertilizers producing units being run under the public sector, so far, to private sector by selling their shares to them

(b) if so, the names of such fertilizer producing units;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the percentage of shares of each unit decided to be sold; and

(d) whether the evaluation of reserved prices of shares of each unit going to be sold has been made?

List of life saving drugs

3750. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTA-
CHARYA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-report appeared in the media recently under the caption, "High anti-cancer drug prices add salt to the wound: life saving drugs out of price control";

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court has called for the list of life saving drugs while allowing implementation of Pharmaceutical Policy, 2002;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) steps being taken to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices to common man?

Price of fertilizers in international market

†3751. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN
SINGH 'LALAN':

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

(a) whether it is a fact that average prices of chemical fertilizers at the international market during the year 2002-03 were found less than that of average prices of the same in the Indian market;

(b) the average prices of all the chemical fertilizers at the Indian market as well as international market; and

(c) what are the factors for which price of chemicals and fertilizers are found higher in the Indian market?

Promotion to private fertilizer companies

†3752. SHRIABHAY KANT PRASAD:
Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to implement new fertilizer policy to increase production of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the said policy is likely to be implemented and

(c) the details of provisions made for promoting private fertilizer producers?

Proposal for wage revision on BVFCL

3753. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) implementation status of the proposal for wage revision of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited and target set to clear; and

(b) viability status of this company in this globalized market and action taken for its survivality?

Prices of fertilizers

†3754. SHRI UDAY PRATAF SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to reduce the prices of fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question submitted to the Minister.

Progress under NRCP

3755. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
PROF. M.
SANKARALINGAM:

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

(a) whether deadline for projects under the National River Conservation Plan are fast approaching but State Government agencies and local bodies have made little progress in implementing them;

(b) if so, whether some schemes, aimed at making waterways cleaner and limiting pollution levels in Chennai and 12 other cities, have not even taken off, though the Centre has committed funds;

(c) if so, what are the main reasons for delay; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

Pollution in Ganga

3756. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution of the River Ganga, particularly in its course along Patna, Varanasi and Allahabad has rendered its water too dangerous for use, even for ritualistic bath by human beings;

(b) whether the objectives envisaged in the Ganga Action Plan have remained unrealized despite large sums having been spent on the project;

(c) details of funds spent region-wise on the Ganga Action Plan so far and benefits resulted therefrom; and

(d) actions contemplated, if any, for

prevention of water pollution in the Ganga especially in its course along Varanasi and Allahabad?

Anti-poaching mechanism for tigers

3757. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to hold a meeting with leading environmental NGOs to devise measures to tighten the anti-poaching mechanism for tigers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the various anti-poaching measures to save tigers in the country have been proved to be ineffective in the past few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Progress in cleaning the rivers

†3758. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution level had reached a very high level in major rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the work had been started to reduce pollution level in several rivers; and

(d) if so, the names of the rivers where such a work had been started and the progress made in this regard so far?

Clean Yamuna Campaign in Delhi

3759. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a clean Yamuna Campaign in Delhi for three

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

days during the last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Yamuna can be cleaned up only by improving the sewage system in Delhi which is absolute in disarray and also many of the programmes under Yamuna Action Plan still remained unfulfilled; and

(c) if so, what long term measures Government propose to take?

Import, production and dumping of plastics

3760. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of plastic/polythene imported/produced and dumped in India every year giving figures of the last three years;

(b) the impact of dumping of plastic and polythene on ecology, human beings and animals; and

(c) why Government are not banning/restricting the use of plastic/polythene to very few items required for storage?

Pollution in Pushkar and Pichhola Lake

†3761. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the water of Teerthraj Pushkar Sarovar and the famous historical Pichhola Lake of Udaipur in Rajasthan has become completely polluted;

(b) whether Government propose to

install water-treatment plant with a view to make the water of these ponds pollution-free;

(c) if so, by when it would be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Plan to protect and conserve Godavari river

3762. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plan has been drawn to protect and conserve the river Godavari;

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

(c) the major areas where this plan will be implemented;

(d) the fund allotted for this project;

(e) whether Government will involve State Governments and NGOs in this plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Eco-crisis in Orissa

3763. MISS MABEL REBELLO: SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether Orissa is very much vulnerable to climate change which can trigger eco-crisis in the State;

(b) whether in the absence of protection, one metre sea level rise can inundate vast prime agricultural land and displace thousands of people and so on, as per study conducted and reported in the media; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) in the face of this, whether Government have drawn up short and longterm plans to save the coastal State from such natural calamities; if so, the details thereof?

Contract research

†3764. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'contract research' is banned in India by assuming it as immoral;

(b) if so, in what manner contract research is going on in our labs; and

(c) if not, the steps Government are going to take to prevent the cruel behaviour against animals?

Garbage causing health hazards

3765. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact, that stock piled garbage in the cities and towns in the country are causing health hazards;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take for collection, transportation and disposal of garbage;

(c) whether the Bangalore and other District Headquarters in Karnataka State are starved off the funds for disposal of Municipal garbage and having bad effect on the health of the people; and

(d) whether Government propose to introduce private players for effective garbage collection, transportation and disposal; if so, the details thereof?

Wildlife Protection Force

3766. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to raise any "Wildlife Protection Force" to protect wildlife and forest resources against organised gangs of poachers and smugglers of forest products;

(b) if so, the nature and scope of such plans and time period which will be required for creation of such forces; and

(c) if not, the plans for effective protection of wildlife and forest areas?

Misuse of funds given for Yamuna cleaning

3767. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry has been instituted to investigate into the alleged misuse of funds for cleaning up of Yamuna river;

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

(c) the effective measures being taken/ proposed by Government to ensure proper utilisation of funds provided for cleaning up of Yamuna river?

Disappearance of boxes of hazardous wastes from port

†3768. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has ordered Government to submit a status report on the disappearance of imported boxes of hazardous wastes;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the report submitted by Government to the court;

(c) whether it is also a fact that around 133 boxes of hazardous waste such as dangerous oil, wastage of batteries and other items were imported into India, violating the international ban orders and these disappeared from ports on their arrival in India; and

(d) if so, the reasons for disappearance from the ports?

Problems facing Yamuna Action Plan

3769. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MISS MABEL REBELLO:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports "Yamuna plan in a maze of toilets" as appeared in media;

(b) what is plaguing Yamuna Action Plan and what is being done to streamline the process; and

(c) time by which things would be put in a proper perspective?

Polluted rivers of M.P., U.P. and Bihar

3770. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of our rivers passing through the States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are badly polluted;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Governments of these States are doing nothing to check the pollution of rivers; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in collaboration with the State Governments to solve the problem of pollution of rivers so that the ambitious plan of linking rivers would be beneficial for the States?

Forest area in Gujarat

3771. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken for expanding the forest area in Gujarat; and

(b) the details thereof and money spent thereon during the last five years, year-wise?

Serving birds in Hotels

3772. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUK-KARASU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of serving rare birds in the local dhabas and restaurants of Delhi and other parts of the country has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps taken in this regard?

Action plan to check pollution in Delhi

3773. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

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

(a) whether Government have formulated any specific action plan to check the day-by-day increasing pollution in Delhi;

(b) if so, the comprehensive details thereof; and

(c) the funds spent by Government to check the pollution in Delhi during the last four years alongwith the year-wise and item-wise details thereof?

Failure of Bt. cotton in Andhra Pradesh

3774. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the opinion being expressed by the environmental activists group Greenpeace as well as the Andhra Pradesh minister for agriculture that the Bt. cotton was a failure;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether any official study has been conducted into the success of Bt. cotton where it has been experimented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Minimizing pollution

3775. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-
RAIAH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that air pollution due to increase in vehicular traffic in the metropolitan cities have increased during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the complete details thereof, metro-wise; and

(c) whether Government propose to take adequate steps to minimize the pollution level on the basis of modern technology available in USA and other European countries, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Pollution in Mumbai

3776. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pollution is increasing in Mumbai and other metros in the country due to emission of smoke by vehicles driven with petrol and diesel;

(b) whether Government have carried out any survey regarding the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to start buses and autos with CNG in these Metropolitan cities specially Mumbai;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to combat pollution?

Discharge of industrial wastes in Yamuna

†3777. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that polluted water and industrial waste was discharged in Eastern Yamuna Canal by Haryana on 12th February, 2003;

(b) whether it is also a fact that quantum of pollution was so much that Delhi Jal Board was forced to close its Haiderpur and Nangloi water treatment plant;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government against Government of Haryana; and

(d) the steps taken to avoid reoccurrence of such incident in future?

Cleaning of Yamuna river

3778. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japanese Government gave a grant of Rs. 600 crore for cleaning up Yamuna river;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that substantial amount has been spent but Yamuna remains as polluted as before;

(c) the amount of money spent and the details of cleaning work completed so far; and

(d) when the entire work of cleaning Yamuna river is likely to be completed?

Illegal construction in Northern ridge in Delhi

3779. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to U.Q. No. 2103 answered in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd March, 2002 and State:

(a) whether Government have since received any report from the Central Vigilance Commission regarding the illegal construction in Northern ridge in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken against the official who had ordered the said construction which resulted in the loss of Rs. 2.60 lakh?

Poaching of tigers for medicines

3780. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a tiger census has been taken recently regarding tigers within the Tiger Project and also in forests outside the reserves;

(b) if so, what are the results of this census;

(c) whether poaching of tigers for body parts to be used in Chinese medicines has assumed formidable dimensions; and

(d) if so, what steps Government are

taking to prevent this illegal trade?

Decaying Mahabodhi tree

3781. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news that appeared in media regarding Mahabodhi tree facing pest threat; and

(b) the curative measures Government propose to take to prevent further deterioration of tree?

Charter on corporate responsibility for environment protection

3782. PROF. M. SANKARA-
LINGAM:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR
REDDY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that recently he has released the "Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the complete details of the voluntary agencies, NGOs and Government departments which have come forward or the Ministry sought their help in pollution control and clean environment; and

(d) whether any machinery has been put in place to monitor the implementation of pollution control measures; if so, the details thereof?

Eviction of Adivasis from forest land

3783. SHRI RANGANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government accept that

Adivasis have been living in Indian forests for thousands of years and using the forest products for their overall requirements;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government of India which is promoting its forest policy for the next 20 years have recommended as joint responsibility for the forest management by the Adivasis and forest officers; and

(c) whether in that context, how is that the Adivasis are being forcibly evicted from the forests?

Projects for cleaning rivers

3784. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the ongoing projects for cleaning rivers in the country;

(b) the details of the allocations made for each, amount spent so far and the net results achieved; and

(c) whether the results achieved match with those expected?

Schemes for developing FPIs

†3785. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the complete details of the schemes formulated by Government to develop the food processing industry in the various States of the country;

(b) the year-wise details of the setting up of food processing industry in various States during the last three years, State-wise and industry-wise; and

(c) the amount spent on setting up of food processing industry during the said

period and the amount proposed to be spent for this work during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

Popularising fortification of processed food products

3786. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the processed food products which are fortified with minerals and Vitamins;

(b) how many processing units have opted for and are actually fortifying the food products;

(c) whether the Ministry has organised any Workshops/Conferences to motivate industry to fortify its products; and

(d) what efforts are made by the Ministry to popularise the fortified food?

Assistance for setting up of laboratories for controlling quality of processed food

3787. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government during the last three years for setting up laboratories to check the quality of processed food and the places where such laboratories have been set up, year-wise;

(b) the amount given as subsidy to the existing laboratories during the same period; and

(c) whether a procedure has been evolved to ensure that the amount of subsidy granted is actually utilised for the purpose; if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Processing technology for banana based soft drink

3788. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed processing technology for a banana based soft drink;

(b) if so, what are its details; and

(c) when will its commercial production commence?

Pay parities in Universities

3789. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI N.R. DASARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 566 given in Rajya Sabha on 5th May, 2000 and to state:

(a) whether the parity in the scale of pay and the age of Superannuation of Librarians and Directors of Physical Education (DPEs) in Universities and colleges with those of teachers has been implemented;

(b) if so, since when; and if not the reasons for delay;

(c) whether any decision has been taken on the Revision of Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) and other terms and conditions of their services;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in taking a decision on the issue; and by when it is expected? *

Withdrawal of admission powers from Satya Sai Engineering College

3790. SHRI RAMACHANDRA
KHUNTIA:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has withdrawn admission powers from Satya Sai Engineering College, in Orissa putting the future of hundreds of students to stake, as reported in the media;

(b) if so, what is the background of this decision;

(c) position of those students who have already been enrolled and undergoing course studies; and

(d) whether the degree/diploma awarded by the Institute is recognized by Government for employment, if not the reasons thereof?

Problems faced by KV teachers

3791. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to constitute a committee to review the problems faced by teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, when the proposal has been received and whether the committee has been formed; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and by when the committee would be formed?

TV Channel on Engineering

3792. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an exclusive television channel for the benefit of students studying engineering and technology courses was launched on the Republic Day this year;

- (b) if so, what will be the duration of daily telecast on this channel; the age group of 6 years to 10 years are not going to school;
- (c) whether other courses will also be covered on this channel; and (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof? (c) what measures are being taken in this regard?

Additional investment for primary education

3793. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an additional investment of Rs. 9800 crores per year for ten consecutive years will suffice to provide universal elementary education to all children in the country in the age group of 6 to 14 years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and year-wise target fixed by Government in this regard?

Districts without education facilities

†3794. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in the country, State-wise where no arrangements have been made so far for primary education;
- (b) by when the said districts are likely to be included under this scheme; and
- (c) the literacy rate in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh alongwith the district-wise details thereof?

Education to children

3795. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 3 crores 20 lacs children in

Tax exemption to corporates for contribution in SSA

3796. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to permit hundred per cent tax exemption to corporates who contribute funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;
- (b) whether such inflows will make up for the large deficit in the budget for SSA projects; and
- (c) whether such tax exemption is aimed at spurring corporates towards commitment to social causes rather than putting the onus of elementary education on the private sector?

Implication of compulsory education

3797. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken any policy decision to ensure the implication of compulsory education upto the age group of 14 years;
- (b) the achievement attained so far in comparison to the target estimated; and
- (c) details of financial assistance Central Government have extended to the States in this regard during the last two years?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Education for children of migrant labourer

3798. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any policy for the Education of Children of migrant labourers who came to cities in search of job opportunities;

(b) whether Government are aware that in absence of ration card or birth certificate the Children of slum dwellers are being denied admission in Government schools; and

(c) whether Government are going to take some measures to check these anomalies?

Higher education correspondence programmes for jail inmates and defence Forces

3799. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any higher education correspondence programmes running for inmates of jails and defence Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, then the reasons for not having such programmes for above mentioned persons?

Women teachers for SSA

3800. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked the State Governments to recruit 60,000 women teachers for its Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme;

(b) if so, which are the States earmarked for the implementation of this programme and

(c) what are the salient features of this programme?

World Bank Aid Programme

3801. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: DR. AKHILESH DAS:

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

(a) whether Government have signed Rs. 1,550 crore World Bank Aid Programme for improvement in the quality of existing technical institutes in the country, if so, the details of the programme and whether only six States, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Kerala have been selected as model for World Bank Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme;

(b) the criteria adopted for selection of the States, indicating the precise objective of the programme and the details of the aid State-wise; and

(c) what steps are being taken to secure such aid for other States?

Low female literacy

3802. DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quite a good number of low female literacy districts have been identified in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to increase female literacy in such districts of the State?

**Results of Central School, Panagarh,
West Bengal**

†3803. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the examination
results and other conditions of the Central
School, Panagarh (West Bengal) were
pitiable four years back;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the
academic results of the school has been
found admirable and a drastic change in
discipline has been noted for the last three
years;

(c) if so, the year-wise details of the
efforts made for such improvement during
the last three years;

(d) whether Government propose to
make such efforts in other schools too; and

(e) whether Government propose to
provide special facilities to such schools in
order to bring them under specific category?

**Introduction of water harvesting
course in Universities**

3804. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants
Commission (UGC) has asked the
Universities to introduce the course on rain
water harvesting;

(b) whether UGC has promised aid in
this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Teaching Urdu in Central Schools

3805. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will
the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Schools which
have provision of teaching Urdu language;
and

(b) the number of Urdu teachers working
in Central Schools?

**Employment-oriented graduate/post-
graduate courses**

3806. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI RUMANDLA
RAAMACHANDRAYYA:

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

(a) whether the University Grants
Commission proposes to restructure under
graduate and post graduate courses to ensure
that they were employment oriented;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the new vocational courses to be
introduced?

**Military training a part of
education**

3807. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the
Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a
task force to examine the feasibility of making
military training a compulsory part of
education;

(b) if so, the composition of the task
force and terms and reference of the task
force;

(c) by when, the task force is likely to
submit its report to Government; and

(d) what other steps Government
propose to take to enforce military training
subject compulsory at school and college
levels?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Private participation in building
gymnasiums/swimming pools in KVs**

3808. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) across the country have invited private participation to build and operate gymnasium and swimming pools for their schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has the approval of the Ministry;

(d) if so, the reasons for according permission for construction of facilities within the school premises on a build, operate and transfer basis; and

(e) *modus operandi* to be followed for safety and security of the school and its students?

**Setting up of open universities and
television channel for higher
education**

3809. SHRIMATI SHABANA

AZMI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI

REDDY:

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

(a) whether in an effort to balance the drive for greater enrolment at the college and University level with limited financial resources Government are planning ways to promote distance education and open universities;

(b) if so, whether it has been proposed that during the Tenth Plan period, every State should set up at least one open university;

(c) whether there are also plans for a dedicated television channel for general higher education;

(d) if so, the number of total colleges and universities set up during the Ninth Plan; and

(e) to what extent, they will be increasing during the Tenth Plan?

**Alternative arrangement for
demolished school buildings**

†3810. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya's building at Sardar Patel Road has been demolished;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the arrangements made for studies of about 800 students who were studying in the said school; and

(c) whether regular classes are being held immediately after the beginning of the session, if so, the details thereof?

**Abolition of sections/classes in
Kendriya Vidyalayas**

3811. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3215 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th December, 2002 and state:

(a) the region-wise details of Kendriya Vidyalayas in which some sections, class-wise, have been abolished and/or increased during the preceeding three sessions including the current one;

(b) the details of Kendriya Vidyalayas

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

closed/merged with other ones during this period along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of Kendriya Vidyalayas which are proposed to be opened during 2003-04 session?

Objective of National Book Trust

†3812. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of National Book Trust along with organisational set up for its functioning;

(b) whether it is a fact that the term of committee of trustees of the trust had expired and work has come to stand still due to the offices of the Chairman and the Director lying vacant; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the arrangement which would be made for smooth functioning of the trust by putting it on rails?

Development fee in colleges

†3813. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of rupees are being charged as Development fee every month from the students by various colleges apart from the tuition fee per month fixed in Delhi University, if so, the average amount being received by the colleges per month and out of this, the amount being received by the university; and

(b) if not, whether Government are considering to frame any rules for the development fee being charged by the

colleges, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Discrimination in education

†3814. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a specific discrimination exists in the field of education on the basis of caste, sex, religion and class in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Assessment of NCERT books

†3815. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made with regard to acceptability/reliability of the text books published by the N.C.E.R.T. during past years;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not making any assessment so far?

Gurudakshina tax on fresh graduates

†3816. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a UGC proposal to impose Gurudakshina tax on those fresh graduates who get their maiden job in private or public sector after completing the education;

(b) if so, the purpose and objectives of this proposal;

(c) the circumstances under which such proposal has been mooted;

(d) whether Government agree with this proposal and contemplating to give consent to it;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if not, who is responsible for such proposal of UGC?

Vacant post of Director/Chairman in NBT

3817. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) for how long National Book Trust, has been without a regular Director and Chairman; and

(b) how such contingencies could not be visualised and arrangements made to fill these posts in time so that the services don't suffer?

Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas without grants

3818. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since refused to make funds available to the Ministry under Plan-Budget 2003-2004 for opening new Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, how about 50 Kendriya Vidyalayas have been opened without the grants;

(c) whether new posts of teachers have been sanctioned therefor; and

(d) if so, category-wise details thereof?

Scholarships for students going abroad

†3819. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India and State Governments provide scholarships and other facilities to the students going abroad for higher education;

(b) if so, the details of the conditions for the same;

(c) the number of students along with the details of amount and other facilities provided to the students since 1999; and

(d) the number of such scholarships proposed to be given during the year 2003 and 2004?

Technical institutions in Bihar

3820. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the reorganisation of the State, major technical institutions of Bihar have gone to Jharkhand;

(b) whether this loss of technical institutions has caused immense damage to the students of Bihar who intend pursuing technical courses; and

(c) whether in view of a large population and the need of the State to have technically qualified manpower, the Union Government propose to establish an I.I.T. in Bihar, if so, by what means and by what time?

Navodaya schools in Uttar Pradesh

3821. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Navodaya schools in Uttar Pradesh particularly Azamgarh and Mau district are very less in number;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government would consider to open these schools, in each of the districts of Uttar Pradesh not having such schools; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Regularization of posts in Jamia Millia Islamia University

3822. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the actual/present strength of professors and clerical staff in Jamia Millia Islamia University, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, category-wise;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some employees are working on daily wages basis since 1996 in each category;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons for continuing them on daily wages basis; and

(d) by when Government propose to regularize their services in each category particularly for the post of LDC and Class IV employees?

Education about natural calamities in school syllabus

†3823. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to get the school children aware about the natural calamities like flood, earthquake, drought and storm and to face such calamities;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to include disaster management subject in social development curriculum during 2003-04 under this; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

E-learning projects in schools

3824. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to launch e-learning projects in 60,000 schools during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, what are the criteria fixed for identifying such schools and will the expenditure in this regard will be met by the Central Government or the schools themselves; and

(c) how many such schools will be covered year-wise during the Plan period?

Allocation for ACD

3825. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 75 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st February, 2003 and state:

(a) the details of allocation and utilisation of fund for anti-collision device; and

(b) the regions earmarked for introducing ACD during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

Distressed bridges in Gujarat

3826. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of rail bridges which have been found to be distressed in Gujarat; and

(b) what steps Government have taken for rehabilitation or rebuilding of such bridges in the State within a time-frame?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Theft from goods train

†3827. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news appeared in media, 'Tarawari Station par malgadi se logon ne koyla loota';

(b) if so, how many times were the goods trains loaded with coal looted on the Tarawari Station during the last one year and how much coal and other commodities were stolen away from goods trains in the years 2000-01 to 2002-03;

(c) when and what arrangements have Government made to check this theft; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

A.C. train for local train service

3828. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to introduce air conditioned trains for Mumbai local train service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

Vacancies of Railway Safety Staff

3829. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA
RAO:
SHRI T. S. BAJWA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 10,000 vacancies of ground-level Safety

Staff in the Railways are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the details of vacancies lying vacant, zone-wise and the period from which they are lying vacant;

(c) the Special Safety Fund allocated for the years 2001-02 and 2002-03; and

(d) the amount that has been spent on safety during the last two years?

Late arrival of Puja Express

3830. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which Puja Express started late from Jaipur and arrived late at Jammu during the period 1st January, 2003 to 20th February, 2003;

(b) if so, what are the details of time by which, the train was late to and fro Jaipur Jammu, date-wise; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

Defects in EMU coaches

3831. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh pointed out a number of defects in EMU coaches manufactured by I.C.F. for Andhra Pradesh Metro Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the defects have since been rectified; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the coaches, duly rectified, are likely to be handed over to the Andhra Pradesh Government?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Indent for cement rakes

3832. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of norms fixed by Government for allotment of rakes for movement of cement from one place to other place in the country;

(b) whether different Railway Zones have different policy for clearing of cement indents;

(c) the details of number of cement rakes indent placed date-wise *vis-a-vis* loaded by different cement producers from South Eastern Railway to NER during period from October to January, 2003;

(d) date-wise details of pending cement indents for November/December, 2002 loading from SER to NER; and

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

Items to be sold at Chemist Stalls at stations

3833. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of additional items permitted for sale at Chemist Stalls (after issue of Letter No. 73TG III/600/78 dated 28th June, 1980) for making them commercially viable; and

◀(b) the names of stations where Chemist Stalls/Corners have been provided upto December, 2002 in Western, Northern, Central, Eastern, Southern, North Eastern and North East Frontier Railways?

Railways ill-equipped to fight attacks

3834. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to "Railways ill-equipped to fight attacks" as appeared in the media;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to address problems highlighted therein?

Delay in upgrading equipment and infrastructure

3835. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint has been received from any railwaymen union that the present frequency of railway accidents is due to delay in upgrading the aging equipment and infrastructure; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

Rail tickets through internet

3836. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have started the train ticket reservation on internet;

(b) if so, the details of cities in which this system is in operation, State-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry has made any arrangements for delivery of tickets reserved through internet; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Mechanism developed to run trains in fog

3837. SHRI VEER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mechanism has been developed in the country by a mechanic for

smooth running of trains even in fog and to avert sabotage but it is not being adopted by the Railways because of red-tapism in the department, as appeared in the media;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by Government for trial run of mechanism and its adoption in trains to avoid huge loss to Railways as a result of fog and sabotage;

(d) whether Government have initiated correspondence with the inventor;

(e) if so, the details thereof and result thereof?

Concession to patients in Rajdhani/ Jan Shatabdi

3838. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed concession in railway ticket to cancer, thalassemia and heart patients for travelling in mail and express trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend this facility in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Jan Shatabdi Express trains; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Transportation of cement to NER

3839. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that NER required 125 to 150 rakes of cement every month from October to May in a year for construction and development works under Central/State Government/Local Bodies/Private Schemes since NER is

dependent on other States for getting cement and mode of transport is railway only;

(b) if so, what steps Railways have taken to provide cement rakes to NER from various Railway Zones; and

(c) what Government have released and planned for allotment of cement rakes to NER from different Railway Zones during the period from October, 2002 to May, 2003?

Connecting of State capitals with rail lines in NE Region

3840. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail lines which are meant to connect State capitals in NE Region;

(b) State capitals linking rail line pending for construction; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

Collection of tickets at terminating stations.

3841. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for passengers to surrender their used train tickets at the terminating stations;

(b) if so, whether tickets are forcibly collected and not returned to the passengers by railway authorities while passengers have the right to retain them for the fare paid to their travel; and

(c) whether Railways will consider leaving the tickets to passengers after checking?

Compensation for pilferage and other losses

3842. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of compensation cases pending with each Railway Claims Tribunal as on 31st October, 2002 and the number of cases settled during the last two years by each of these Tribunals;

(b) the number of cases pending for more than 3, 4, and 5 years respectively;

(c) the amount of compensation paid for (1) perishable goods (2) pilferage (3) complete loss (4) damage by water and (5) petroleum oil and lubricants separately, during last year; and

(d) the steps taken to dispose of compensation cases expeditiously and checking of pilferage and other losses?

Setting up of terminals by private entrepreneurs

3843. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private entrepreneurs are being encouraged to set up terminals/warehousing facilities;

(b) if so, how many such warehouses have come up along with the details of such warehouses coming up; and

(c) the details of the conditions governing the aforesaid private warehousing scheme?

Security arrangements at railway stations in Mumbai

3844. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways propose to provide

special security arrangements at the local railway stations in Mumbai in view of the spurt of terrorist violence in the local trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of present security arrangements at the local railway stations?

Rail Network in mountainous regions

3845. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to extend the existing railway network in the mountainous regions, beyond Shimla, Darjeeling, Nainital and other places;

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

(c) if reply to part(a) is in negative, whether the Railways would now think of extending the railway network beyond the existing hill terminals so as to enable the people of remote mountainous areas to reap the benefits of development in the country?

Track circuits

3846. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) in how many section track circuiting have been completed so far;

(b) what is the present backlog; and

(c) time frame to complete the works?

Project under rail infrastructure development company

3847. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways are aware that rail projects undertaken under K-RIDE are under different stages of consideration in the State and Central Government; and

(b) what is the current status of the proposal and by when Government's decision can be expected?

Downsizing Tindharia workshop

3848. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that N.F. Railways have decided to downsize the Tindharia workshop; and

(b) if so, the justification thereof?

Udhampur Qazigud rail line

3849. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways propose to lay rail line between Udhampur and Qazigud and how much money has been provided from the Rail Budget for the years 2002-2003; and 2003-2004, year-wise; and

(b) by when line between Udhampur and Qazigud would be completed?

Selection of CSIR's traditional knowledge database for pilot study

3850. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that CSIR's traditional knowledge database was selected for pilot study by 170 member States by inter-governmental Committee at WIPO;

(b) whether a decision to this effect was taken at 31st session of Committee of experts held in February, 2002 at WIPO; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Seismological equipment in Bangalore

3851. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to State:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of

Government that there is no seismological equipment in the Bangalore city to measure earthquakes; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

Operationalising SARAS

3852. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that SARAS, the country's first 14 seater indigenous multirole light Transport Aircraft is ready;

(b) if so, whether the trials of this aircraft are over; and

(c) by when this aircraft will become fully operational?

R and D projects of CSIR

3853. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that many R and D Projects could not progress fast due to lack of funds whereas the private firms investments are much larger than Government on R and D Projects;

(b) what are the major projects currently being undertaken by the CSIR; and

(c) the details regarding funds allocated to each such project?

Prediction of earthquake

3854. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people in Ahmedabad are still experiencing tremors of earthquake;

(b) whether State Government has taken

any steps to know about the earthquake in advance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Funds for Science and Technology

3855. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fund allocation made in the budget for the Ministry of Science and Technology is sufficient considering the ground realities; and

(b) the action proposed to find more money for Science and Technology for quality achievement and imbuing a scientific temper?

Extinction of bananas

3856. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bananas may face extinction within ten years on account of pests and diseases; and

(b) if so, the genetic engineering efforts proposed to save bananas from going extinct?

Revival of VSP

3857. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the differences between Government and the Andhra Pradesh Government over the revival of Vizag Steel Plant have been resolved; and

(b) if so, what is the present status of revival of the above steel Plant?

Steel Policy

3858. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are thinking of preparing a comprehensive steel policy for the Indian Steel industry in the light of the on-going revised restructuring and globalisation;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposed policy;

(c) whether Government will bring it before Parliament during its current Session for consideration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Proposals under research and technology Mission

3859. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals evaluated by the research and technology mission during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of proposals forwarded to the Empowered Committee for its consideration during that period, year-wise; and

(c) the major recommendations of the Empowered Committee on these proposals?

Subsidy on steel production

†3860. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that subsidy is

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

provided on steel production in several steel producing countries of the world;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where there is still a system of providing subsidy on steel products by their respective Governments; and

(c) the names of the countries in which subsidy was provided during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and first nine months of 2002-2003 alongwith the amount thereof under this system?

Setting up of sports academy

3861. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to set up sports academy in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such academy is being set up in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Financial assistance to Chikmagalur Golf Club

3862. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for providing financial assistance for development of Chikmagalur Golf Club; and

(b) if so, when the said proposal would be approved and funds provided to the State Government for the purpose?

Promotion of traditional Indian Sports

†3863. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have formulated any scheme to promote traditional Indian sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the amount spent by Government on traditional sports during the last three years, year-wise?

Promotion of youth affairs and sports

†3864. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote youth affairs and sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received proposals from various States in this regard; and

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

Sports facilities for rural and hilly areas

†3865. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that better sports facilities are not available for the persons living in rural and hilly areas of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to formulate new schemes to promote sports in the said regions?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Goa, Daman and Diu Shooting
Association**

3866. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Association
called Goa, Daman and Diu Shooting
Association in Goa;

(b) if so, how many State Level
Championships have been conducted by

this Association, during the last five years;

(c) whether the National Rifle
Association of India has taken any action
for de-recognition for failure to organize
these events; and

(d) whether there is any other State
Association in Goa, recognized by State
Olympic Association and State
Government, seeking recognition and what
is its status?

NEW DELHI;
The 19th April, 2003
Chaitra 29, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

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