

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on*

*Friday, the July 25, 2003/Sravana 3, 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

##### Investment in agriculture

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

(a) the investment in agriculture as a  
percentage of GDP during the Seventh,  
Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans;

(b) the target set for the Tenth Five Year  
Plan;

(c) whether investment as percentage of  
GDP is very low considering the  
contribution of agriculture to GDP; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to increase  
investment in agriculture?

##### Suicide by farmers in Punjab

563. DR. AKHILESH DAS:  
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received  
reports that more than sixty farmers had  
committed suicides in Punjab during  
2002-2003;

(b) whether reports of suicides by  
farmers under pressure loan recovery by  
banks and financial institutions during that

year were also received from other States,  
if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such recovery continued  
even in drought hit areas despite Prime  
Minister's announcement for its non-  
recovery; and

(d) the steps taken by Government, the  
Reserve Bank of India and other authorities  
to relieve the stress of debt recovery from  
farmers' mind?

##### Central assistance to drought hit States

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether high level task force on  
drought has considered demands of drought  
hit States for additional Central assistance;

(b) whether Centre has convened a  
meeting to prepare contingency plans to deal  
with any drought like situation in the current  
fiscal;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh  
Government and other drought hit States  
have fully utilised the amount, so far,  
provided to them to meet drought;

(d) whether the Supreme Court directed Centre to double States quota of foodgrains and allocation of funds under PM's Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana on priority basis; and

(e) if so, the schemes that have been worked out in this regard?

#### **Implementing Agriculture Policy**

565. DR. M.N. DAS:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have called greater efforts in implementing Indian Agriculture Policy;

(b) if so, whether due to the starvation deaths at a time when there was overflowing granaries of foodgrains in the country, Government have decided to examine option of drastically changing policy of stocking foodgrains;

(c) whether the main aim and objective of the agricultural research and development was how to prepare a road map of the policy strategies and to meet resources available to implement the policy; and

(d) if so, what are the changes that are being made to make Agriculture Policy suitable to India?

#### **Flood and drought in States**

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

(a) the States which are affected by recent flood and drought in this year;

(b) the extent of damage caused to those States due to these natural calamities; and

(c) the details of steps taken to extend adequate Central assistance to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures?

#### **Crop diversification**

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

(a) whether crop diversification has been recognised as a device to reduce drought impact;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to propagate the device; and

(c) what concrete steps have been taken by the Centre in collaboration with State Governments for effective implementation of soil and water conservation measures through watershed development in rain-fed areas?

#### **Computer purchase scam in ICAR**

†568. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instead of penalising the persons accused of computer purchase scam involving crores of rupees in ICAR, Government are trying to hush up the matter;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Central Vigilance Commission despite their all out efforts have not so far recovered the reports of the Pawan Raina Committee and the Bhaskar Barua Committee which have conducted departmental enquiry; and

(c) if the position contained in (a) and (b) above are correct, what action Government have taken in this regard and the details thereof?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Export of potatoes**

569. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that frequent gluts and unremunerative prices often force potato growers to leave part of their crops unharvested;

(b) whether this is because no new outlets have emerged to gainfully utilise the surplus potato and the potato export potential has not been harnessed;

(c) whether it is a fact that the potato production has increased from 5 million tonnes in 1970 to 25 million tonnes at present; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take, so as to promote export of surplus potato?

**Agricultural growth rate**

570. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural growth rate registered a decline of 3.2 per cent during 2002-03 against growth of 5.7 per cent in 2001-02;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for a steep fall in agricultural growth rate;

(c) whether new plans have been formulated to increase the growth rate during 2003-04; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Drought relief to Rajasthan**

†571. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Government's norms for providing assistance to farmers of Rajasthan under the drought relief fund;

(b) whether Government have received details with regard to drought relief from the State Government;

(c) whether Government are planning to give more drought relief to the farmers of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Agricultural employment generation**

572. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agriculture is in the state of crisis as there is a stagnation of agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and fall in per capita GDP in agriculture in recent years;

(b) whether the agricultural employment generation has considerably declined in the last decade;

(c) whether this is due to the neo-liberal reforms introduced in the early 1990's; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take to encourage agricultural employment generation?

**Compensation to drought hit farmers by CACP**

573. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

asked the Commission on Agriculture Cost and Price (CACP) to recommend to pay the compensation in cash and other forms to the farmers, in view of drought;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the farmers from whom Union Government do not purchase grains at all would be deprived from getting this benefit, in case the Commission announces bonus apart from MSP; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **Shortage of seeds in drought hit States**

574. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers in drought hit areas of Andhra Pradesh and other States this year suffered from acute shortage of seeds and supply of spurious seeds for the next crop besides problems of credit and the like;

(b) whether some of the agitating farmers had lost their lives; if so, how many had lost their lives or were injured in firing; and

(c) what steps have been taken to come to the rescue of the farmers, by providing adequate and proper inputs for next crops, especially in the drought hit areas?

#### **Supplying improved seeds**

575. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bad quality of seeds is responsible for low production of edible oils, vegetables, fruits, fodder and feed crops;

(b) if so, how far low production is responsible for increased import of edible oils; and

(c) what effective steps are being taken to supply improved quality of seeds and to spread genetic and legal knowledge in rural and tribal areas to boost production of quality seeds?

#### **KVKs in Uttaranchal**

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

(a) the details of districts of Uttaranchal where Krishi Vigyan Kendras have not been set up so far;

(b) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been planned to be set up in the said districts during the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) if so, the year-wise details of the places where these centres are likely to be set up?

#### **Central schemes in Maharashtra**

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

(a) what are the details of the Centrally sponsored schemes formulated and implemented in Maharashtra during the current financial year for increasing the agriculture production; and

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for greater rural infrastructure investment and enhanced assistance to resource poor small-time farmers to enable them to face the challenges of comparative advantage in world trade?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### Potato research centres

578. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Potato research centres established in the country;
- (b) the details of major production centres of potato;
- (c) the steps taken to improve the seed of potato; and
- (d) the action taken to check deterioration in various varieties of potato?

### Subsidized items

579. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the items on which subsidies are given to farmers by the Central Government and State Governments separately;
- (b) whether this subsidy is taken into account while fixing the Minimum Support Price to be paid to farmers of their produce; and
- (c) the number of small farmers who are benefited out of these schemes?

### Projects of Himachal Pradesh

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

- (a) the details of the amount sanctioned/allocated and released by Government during the last two years to Himachal Pradesh for RVPs, FPR, RAS and NWDPR, the projects under the Ministry; and

(b) the target for providing aid to Himachal Pradesh under these projects in the forthcoming year?

### Drought in J&K

581. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that twenty States were declared as drought hit States in the year 2002-2003;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that funds were sanctioned/released to those States;
- (c) why was Jammu and Kashmir not identified as a drought hit State; and
- (d) the criteria adopted for declaring these drought hit States?

### Foot mouth free zone in Maharashtra

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

- (a) whether any proposal has been received from Maharashtra Government to create a foot and mouth free zone in the State to encourage export of meat products;
- (b) whether Government have any scheme to fund such a proposal;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reaction of Government to the proposal of the State Government?

### Drought

583. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of the country affected by severe droughts;

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the total population of the country affected by this drought conditions;

(c) what steps are being taken to give relief to the affected people; and

(d) what is the total allocation of funds to give relief to the drought affected people in the country, State-wise?

#### **Investment of R & D in agriculture**

584. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the flow of investment for Research and Development (R & D) in the agricultural sector has been declining successively over the last few years;

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

(c) the details of steps being taken to secure larger investment to accelerate the R & D activities for increased productivity and improved quality of agricultural products so as to meet the needs of the ever growing population of the country?

#### **Implementing the recommendations of Bovine Commission**

†585. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1726 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th March, 2003, and to state:

(a) whether the expert group set up under the chairmanship of Joint Commissioner (CBF) in the department to examine and suggest measures for implementing the recommendations of the Bovine Commission which was to submit its report

by 15th March 2003, has since submitted the same; and

(b) if so, the actions being taken by Government to protect Bovine, the backbone of agriculture in the country?

#### **Unviable chemical fertilizer projects**

†586. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of chemicals and fertilizers production projects in the country have been running under the public sector;

(b) if so, the production capacity of these projects, separately;

(c) the percentage of the production capacity applied by these projects under public sector in the year 2002 separately; and

(d) the projects found unviable during the year 2002 and the details of the production capacity of these projects?

#### **Supply of DAP**

587. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government renegotiated with International firms in June 2003 for the purchase of phosphoric acid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its impact on the supply of DAP to farmers?

#### **Fertilizer industries operating in Bihar**

†588. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of fertilizer

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

industries opened in Bihar by Central Government;

(b) whether all these industries are operational;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Water treatment plants in ponds and lakes**

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

(a) whether there is any project for installation of water treatment plants for treatment of water of ponds and lakes under the various projects of the Ministry;

(b) the names of the States alongwith the number of ponds and lakes where Government have installed the water treatment plants for the last three years;

(c) whether the Ministry has formulated any scheme to instal a water treatment plant in order to purify the badly contaminated water in 'Pushkar Sarovar' of the famous pilgrim place of Ajmer district; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when this scheme would be implemented?

#### **Forest cover for ecological balance**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 30.6 per cent of land in Assam is under forest cover and also more than 3 per cent of land is under trees or forests, having value for ecological balance of a country, but not recognised by forest department of the Government, which exceeds 33 per cent as required by the norms

of forest cover for ecological balance in Assam; and

(b) if so, what is the difficulty of Government in declaring some of the deforested forest land, occupied by peasants long ago, *i.e.*, 35 to 50 years, as dereserved?

#### **Notified forest area in Gujarat**

591. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any notified forest area in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to preserve the forest area in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Selling of forest land in Mumbai**

592. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item titled "20 Mumbai estates built on forest scam land" appeared in the media recently;

(b) if so, what are the details of forest land, the use of which has been converted into residential and commercial at Thane and Pune districts of Maharashtra;

(c) how much forest land has been sold off to Sahara Group of Companies for commercial activity and at what price;

(d) whether the Government of Maharashtra obtained the permission of the Central Government for converting and selling forest land into Commercial/residential purposes; and

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Conservation of urban lakes**

593. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some badly polluted urban lakes were identified way back in 1994 for conservation by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of these lakes are still polluted and stinking as nothing has been done to make them pollution free; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take to clean these lakes within a time frame?

#### **Genetically modified seeds**

594. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) threatened to launch agitation if the Centre do not ban transgenic hybrid varieties, including BT Cotton in the country in view of their harmful effects on environment and people;

(b) if so, the views of Government on use of genetically modified seeds; and

(c) the action taken by Government to compensate farmers who incurred losses by opting BT Cotton?

#### **Forest land for distribution among tribals in Kerala**

595. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:  
SHRI N.K. PREMA-  
CHANDRAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to grant 25,000 acres of forest land for distribution among tribals in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central inspection team which visited Kerala for the purpose had suggested to submit a fresh report on the land to be given to the tribals as the land identified by the Kerala State Government was thick forest land; and

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

#### **Checking encroachments on coastal areas**

596. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that a two member Committee has been constituted by Coastal Zone Authority to improve the ecological balance and to check the environmental degradation around coastal areas;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the above Committee to check the encroachment of coastal areas and excessive exploitation of sea resources alongwith the follow up thereof;

(c) whether high tide line has since been extended by 500 meters to check encroachments on coastal areas; and

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



**Ban on polythene carry bags**

597. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has proposed a ban on carry bags made of polythene of less than 20 microns on All India level;

(b) if so, whether the Central Pollution Control Board has drawn a phased programme to this effect;

(c) whether many States had enforced such a ban earlier in selected urban/tourist pockets; and

(d) if so, the impact thereof on environmental pollution control?

**Centrally sponsored schemes for development of forests**

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

(a) what are the Centrally sponsored schemes and programmes for development of forests in the country;

(b) the details of funds allotted to each State and Union Territory for these schemes and programmes during the year 2002-03; and

(c) the details of funds utilised by them?

**Schemes for development of environment and forests in Gujarat**

599. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes/schemes formulated and implemented by Government for development of environment and forests in the State of Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) the funds allocated by the Central

Government under each programme/scheme during the above period; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard and the steps being taken by Government for afforestation and to protect/ conserve the forests in Gujarat?

**Legislation for regulation of food products**

600. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to converge and modernise the existing laws of food processing and bring out a single statute for regulation of food products;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed legislation;

(c) whether it is a fact that a Group of ministers has been constituted for this purpose; and

(d) if so, when the Group is likely to submit its report?

**Maintaining quality of food and drinks**

601. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news report in June, 2003 that a dead lizard was found in coca-cola's coke bottle in Chennai;

(b) the steps taken by Government to maintain hygiene and quality in fast food and soft drinks that are fast spreading to the rural areas; and

(c) whether Government would bring a legislation to deal with multinational companies that fail to maintain the quality in food and drinks according to guidelines?

**Discrimination against Hindi and other languages in colleges of DU**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the students of Hindi and other languages are being discriminated in the colleges of Delhi University;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in spite of the names appearing in cut off lists the students are not being enrolled as they do not have the knowledge of English;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government would stop this type of practice against non-English speaking students and would take action against erring persons?

**Notification by UGC about some Foreign and Indian Universities**

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has issued any notification warning the Public about several Foreign and Indian Universities whose degrees/diplomas are not recognised for academic or employment purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that some Management institutes operating in the country are openly advertising that their degrees/diplomas, conferred by International Management Institute, Europe are globally renowned;

(d) if so, whether the aforesaid degrees/

diplomas are officially recognised by Government; and

(e) if not, the steps taken to educate the public in the matter?

**Probe against NGOs for misuse of funds**

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

(a) whether the Department of Women and Child Development is probing the functioning of NGOs handling DWCD sponsored projects and programmes;

(b) if so, whether this probe is to assess the extent of non-performance or fund misappropriation by the NGOs; and

(c) the names of NGOs which have been black-listed during the last year by the DWCD for misuse of funds?

**Implementation of SSA in Karnataka**

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

(a) whether Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) if so, how many children in the age of 6-14 years have been given free education in Karnataka under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide free education for children from the age of three years;

(d) the amount released to Karnataka during 2002-03 under the above Abhiyan; and

(e) number of children proposed to be provided with free education during 2003-04?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Centrally sponsored schemes for employment generation in J & K**

606. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centrally sponsored schemes including foreign funding are presently available in Jammu and Kashmir for employment generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of those schemes?

**Priority to vocational education**

607. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ORG in 1996 and NCERT in 1998 evaluated that the States were according low priority to vocational education;

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

(c) the steps being taken by Government to divert the students in the vocational stream to meet the immense demand for skilled manpower generated by the policies of liberalization and globalization;

(d) whether there is any action plan to make the vocational education more attractive and meaningful;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the progress in the implementation and the result achieved?

**Fee structure in private Schools and Colleges**

608. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are Government's guidelines

for fixing the fee structure in private schools and colleges in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that schools and colleges are charging exorbitant fees and donations and swindling the common people; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps, so far, taken or proposed to be taken to regulate the fee structure in the country?

**Vacancies in Indian Institutes of Technology**

609. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 150 vacancies exist in seven prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology at present, affecting the teaching there adversely;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not filling vacancies in these institutes; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to fill vacant posts at the earliest?

**Establishment of institutes for quality teaching**

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

(a) whether University Grants Commission proposes to establish four institutes across the Country, called the Centre for Studies in Integrated Sciences (CSIS), in collaboration with CSIR on the lines of IIT, for promoting quality teaching; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith financial allocations made for each of the proposed CSIS?

**Survey on functioning of foreign universities by AICTE**

611. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has recently conducted a survey into the functioning of foreign universities and such institutes, which do not have accreditation;

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

(c) what punitive measures are being taken to make them more accountable?

**Explanation by SC on misuse of funds under ICDS**

†612. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has called for explanation from Government for spending crores of rupees on the Integrated Child Development Scheme every year;

(b) if so, the information provided by Government to the Supreme Court in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that after spending 85 per cent of funds on infrastructure and on the salaries of the employees, only 15 per cent amount reaches to the real beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken by Government to check the misuse of Government funds?

**Copying in IGNOU examination Centre**

†613. SHRIMATI PREMA

CARIAPPA:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item captioned IGNOU Pariksha Kendra Per Khuleaam Nakal as appeared in the media recently;

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

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that students were disqualified in the examination for non-functioning of computers due to failure of electricity in various centres allotted for conducting practical examination of MCA third years;

(d) whether it is also a fact that no action has been taken by IGNOU against the concerned centres; and

(e) if so, concrete steps taken by Government to rectify such situation and to save the future of students?

**Spreading of mass literacy and education**

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

(a) whether Government have taken any new steps for spreading mass literacy and education to every nook and corner of the country;

(b) if so, whether this will help to ensure that learning becomes a continuous and life long process;

(c) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has drawn any plan to launch a dedicated satellite for spreading knowledge in the country; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Central School at Madurai**

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

(a) whether any demand has been raised to open another Central School at Madurai; and

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

#### **Construction of school under SSA**

†616. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) total number of schools for which construction work under 'Sarva Siksha Abhiyan' has been completed by the department so far;

(b) whether Government have information with regard to scams under 'Sarva Siksha Abhiyan'; and

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

#### **Powers to NCW**

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

(a) whether it is proposed to empower National Commission for Women with judicial powers or empower them with same powers as National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **CAG's report on ICHR**

618. SHRI N.R. DASARI:  
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:  
SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the alleged irregularities and mismanagement at the Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR) as has been revealed by the latest report of the Comptroller and Accountant General (CAG);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered in the matter; if so, the details thereof?

#### **Literacy target**

619. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:  
DR. ABRAR AHMED

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

(a) whether UNESCO, which was initially optimistic about India's claims of total literacy by decade-end, has now started expressing reservations;

(b) if so, whether a recent report of the UN body says universal elementary education may elude the country even around 2015, five years after Government's deadline;

(c) if so, what were the main reasons put forward by them; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to see that India achieves literacy target by 2015?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Contribution of NRIs for higher education to Central Government fund**

†620. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked those non-resident Indians, who have made contribution to the concerned institutions for higher education, to pay money only in 'Central Government fund';

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the impact of Government's decision on the assistance to be provided to these educational institutions?

**Quality improvement scheme in schools**

621. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are ensuring optimal utilisation of the funds under the scheme of quality improvement in schools;

(b) what is the total actual utilisation of funds under the scheme or its earlier format in last three years and till June end in current financial year; and

(c) what are the physical targets achieved under the scheme?

**Regulations to regulate the operation of foreign universities**

622. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the interest of students, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has recently

issued a set of regulations to regulate the operation of foreign universities/institutions providing education in India and abroad;

(b) the broad outlines of the regulations;

(c) whether Government have put some conditions on advertisements of foreign universities/institutions; and

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

**Kendriya Vidyalayas in Uttaranchal**

†623. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where Kendriya Vidyalayas were opened in Uttaranchal during the last two years;

(b) whether the Ministry has received requests for opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas at Ranikhet, Bageswar and Champavat also; and

(c) if so, by when Kendriya Vidyalayas are proposed to be opened at these places?

**Corruption in Child Development Projects**

†624. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned Bhrastachar key sikanje mei jakdi Bal Vikas Pariyojna, appeared in the media;

(b) if so, whether Government have got the cases of corruption investigated by senior honest official;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) when the review of the utility of the Child Development Projects have been conducted by Government and the details thereof?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Sub-standard technical courses by  
foreign colleges**

625. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many foreign colleges and institutes running in the country that are providing sub-standard technical courses that might not be recognized even in their own country;

(b) if so, the number of such colleges/institutions running in the country offering sub-standard courses;;

(c) how many such colleges/institutions the AICTE will clamp down; and

(d) how many foreign colleges/institutes have applied for fresh approval with AICTE till date?

**Medium of instruction of Humanities  
subjects in Colleges under DU**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many renowned colleges under Delhi University have switched over the medium of instruction of Humanities subjects to English only in their respective prospectus;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

**Funds to State Governments under  
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

†627. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether Government have allotted the funds to State Governments towards annual expences under 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' to achieve the target of providing primary education to all children of 6 to 14 years age-group by the end of December, 2003;

(b) if so, the details of funds allotted during the years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the details of actual utilization of funds by each State during the said years?

**Qualifications for teachers in CTS, NV  
and KV**

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

(a) the details of essential and desirable academic and professional qualifications prescribed for direct recruitment of teachers of different grades in Central Tibetan Schools, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas as on date; and

(b) the details of the qualifications as in force earlier, if they differed from the present ones?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Change in policy plank**

629. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been change in policy plank of Bharat Shiksha Kosh (BSK) so far flow of fund to IITs and other technical institutions;

(b) whether the change has adversely affected the fund flow; and

(c) what is the financial requirements for the technical education under different heads/institutes under Tenth Five Year Plan year-wise and whether Government was able to mobilize the required fund?

### **Re-launching of development schemes under new name**

630. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are re-launching its development schemes under a new name from time to time;

(b) whether the objective of schemes like Indira Mahila Yojana, Swayamsidha and Integrated Women Empowerment Programme are the same; and

(c) if so, the reasons for re-launching these development schemes with new names?

### **Promotion of Indian languages**

631. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZAMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts earmarked and spent for promotion of each Indian language during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) how much actual promotion of each such language took place during the above period?

### **Sale of medical and engineering seats in unaided private colleges**

632. SHRI GAYA SINGH:  
SHRI N.R. DASARI:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent news reports about the sale of medical and engineering seats in unaided private colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to such uncontrolled trade in professional educational field;

(c) whether it is a fact that the private colleges have resorted to this practice misinterpreting a Supreme Court judgement of December, 2002 freeing unaided private colleges from Government fee control; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

### **Female literacy in Andhra Pradesh**

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

(a) whether Government have adopted strategies to improve the female literacy in Andhra Pradesh particularly in rural and tribal areas of the State; and



(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Revision of jistory book of NCERT for class XII**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that NCERT has asked Sri Saradindu Mukherjee of Hansraj College to revise the NCERT history book for class XII;

(b) whether the manuscript of Shri Mukherjee was 'corrected' by an unnamed expert in March, 2003; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Mistakes in history book for class XII**

†635. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:  
SHRI JIBON ROY:

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

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the gross mistakes incorporated in the history book for class XII, titled "Modern India" published by NCERT;

(b) who is the writer of the book; and

(c) what actions Government propose to rectify such distortion of historical facts?

**Private self-financing professional colleges in Kerala**

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

(a) whether Government have recognised a few engineering and medical colleges in Kerala under private self-financing professional colleges recently;

(b) if so, the details of total seats and seats available on the basis of merit for engineering and medical in the private self-financing professional colleges as on date, category-wise;

(c) the fees fixed for students admitted based on merit in private self-financing medical colleges and engineering colleges, category-wise;

(d) whether Government have formulated or propose to formulate guidelines for fixing merit quota and fixing fees in these colleges;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Progress made in implementation of SSA in the country**

637. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:  
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

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

(a) the progress made so far in the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the different States of the country;

(b) whether some States including U.P. are adopting lackadaisical approach towards this project;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the States want the funds to come to them first whereas the Ministry has directed that funds are to be sent directly to SSA Samitis; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to remove such hurdles and shortage of funds for the success of SSA?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**ICSE and CBSE education in  
Karnataka schools**

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

(a) the number of schools in Karnataka providing education in ICSE and CBSE curriculum;

(b) the number of children studying in various classes of ICSE and CBSE syllabus in Karnataka; and

(c) the number of schools which have been given permission to start ICSE and CBSE classes in Karnataka during 2003-04?

**Female literacy in J&K**

639. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the female literacy in Jammu and Kashmir compared to other States for the last three years;

(b) whether funds have been granted to Jammu and Kashmir for starting vocational courses to increase female literacy in the State; and

(c) if so, the amount released for the year 2003-04?

**Guidelines for functioning of foreign  
universities**

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

(a) whether Government have drawn a set of guidelines/regulations governing the functioning of foreign universities operating in the country;

(b) whether Government have undertaken any investigation on the *bona fides* of such universities and if so, in how many cases the course content and the institution's background have been found to be suspect; and

(c) whether the accreditation with the regulatory body would require a credibility certificate of guarantee from the home Government of such universities?

**Scheme to motivate professionals**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission (U.G.C.) has launched a scheme to motivate the professionals both retired and in service to take up teaching at undergraduate colleges located in various areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its main objects;

(c) the response of the academic community to the scheme; and

(d) by when the scheme is likely to be operational?

**Increase of fees in Open Universities**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a large section of people will be deprived of the education due to the increase of fee in Open Universities;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, whether any justified step would be taken by Government in this regard; and  
(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Errors in the text books of VI and IX classes**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that anomalies, objections and factual errors were pointed out by a section of academicians and intellectuals in the text books meant for class VI and IX brought out by NCERT; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken thereon?

**B.Ed. colleges in Andhra Pradesh**

644. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent a proposal to the National Council for Technical Education for starting four new B.Ed. colleges in the State;  
(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and  
(c) whether the approval to the proposal has since been given and if not, the reason therefor?

**Removal of Premchand's novel from class XII syllabus**

645. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CBSE has decided to remove the novel by the legendary litterateur

Premchand from the class XII syllabus;

- (b) if so, the reason therefor;  
(c) whether it is a fact that the CBSE has decided to replace Premchand's novel by a work of Mridula Sinha; and  
(d) if so, the criteria for selecting literary works to be included in the school syllabus?

**FDI in education Sector**

646. SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that a large number of Indian students are going abroad for higher studies;  
(b) if so, the approximate number of students going abroad for higher education, per year;  
(c) whether Government are considering Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the education sector in order to draw more foreign students to India and make more education institutions accessible to Indian students; and  
(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Status of Central University to Sambalpur University**

647. SHRI B.J. PANDA: MISS PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Sambalpur University at Jyoti Vihar in Orissa has not been granted the status of Central University; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the syndicate of Sambalpur University has been repeatedly requesting the Centre to confer this status; and

(c) if so, whether the Centre propose to review its decision; if not the reasons therefor?

#### **Increase in private schools**

† 648. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of private schools are increasing throughout the country;

(b) whether these schools are free to charge fees in an arbitrary manner;

(c) whether Government are considering to fix any criterion to control the arbitrariness of these private schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Mid-day meal**

649. MISS MABEL REBELLO:  
PROF. M.M. AGARWAL:

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

(a) which are the States that are still not giving cooked mid-day meal to the children;

(b) whether it is a fact that in some States while at some places cooked meals are served

and at others grain in lieu of cooked meals is distributed to the children;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) why Government have still not implemented the Supreme Court's directive so far and how long it will take for Government to implement the Supreme Court's directive in the whole country;

#### **Indian Language Promotion Council**

650. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRA-IAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Language Promotion Council was set up under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to advise Government on measures to be taken for the promotion, development and propagation of all Indian languages;

(b) the composition of the Council and the recommendation of the Council so far;

(c) the steps taken for the promotion, development and propagation of Telugu, the second widely spoken language in the country, in Hindi speaking States and UTs; and

(d) the details of the States, number of schools which introduced Telugu and the number of students who opted to learn the language?

---

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Quality of technical education in Orissa**

651. 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 quality of technical education in Orissa has fallen for want of adequate resources as the State Government cannot render much help to upgrade their systems;

(b) whether it is also a fact that future of the degree and diploma holders is in the dark on account of the above fact; and

(c) if so, the help rendered by the Centre to provide infrastructure and financial help to upgrade the technical know-how and other standards of education in the State?

**Load of school bags on children**

†652. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the load of school bags on children is increasing alongwith the load of studies;

(b) whether Government propose to take any steps in order to reduce this increasing load of books on children; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**South Indian languages in Hindi speaking States and UTs**

653. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRA-IAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

had introduced a scheme in 1993-94 to teach a South Indian language in Hindi speaking States and UTs;

(b) if so, the number of South Indian languages *i.e.* Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam which were introduced, number of teachers appointed and the amount spent on each language, since the inception of scheme, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any plan to make one South Indian language compulsory in Hindi speaking States and UTs for the promotion of National integration through language; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Condition of Urdu medium colleges**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of Urdu medium colleges is becoming bad to worse day-by-day throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the results of students of Urdu has been negligible *vis-a-vis* the students of the other subjects because of the indifference shown towards maintenance of schools and studies as well;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government would take any concrete steps for betterment of schools of Urdu medium and their students?

**Compensation to victims**

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

(a) the number of death cases where Railway Claims Tribunals awarded

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

compensation less than that provided for in the rules, during the last five years giving particulars of the cases, with the compensation awarded and that provided for in the rules;

(b) whether in view of the recent Supreme Court judgment to the effect that the Tribunals and the High Courts don't have the power to award compensation less than that provided for in the rules, Government would re-open the cases;

(c) if so, by when the balance payment in such cases is likely to be cleared; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Law to deal with ticketless passengers**

†656. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards news-item captioned "19 lakh rail yatri betikat pakde gaye" as appeared in the media;

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

(c) whether there is any plan to enact a stringent law to deal with ticket-less passengers in future so that the recurrence of such incidents could be stopped; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Cases pending with Tribunals**

657. SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the cases of compensation in respect of the persons killed/injured in rail accidents pending with Western Railways claim Tribunals as on date and the amount of compensation claimed therein;

(b) the period from which such cases are pending;

(c) the reasons for delay in disposal of these cases;

(d) the average time generally taken to dispose of such cases; and

(e) by when the above cases are likely to be disposed of?

#### **ROB/RUB in Orissa**

658. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of overbridges/underbridges under construction in Orissa alongwith present status thereof;

(b) the details of proposals sent by the Government of Orissa for construction of overbridges/underbridges at level crossing;

(c) the action taken by Government thereon;

(d) funds allocated for construction of such bridges during the last three years; and

(e) steps taken for completion of these projects?

#### **Train from Delhi to Tirupati**

659. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no direct train from Delhi to Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh where about 20,000 devotees from North visit daily; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to start a bi-weekly direct express train immediately to ease the difficulties faced by the Senior citizens and elderly ladies in changing trains to Ranigunta for visit to Tirupati, the most revered religious place in India?

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Booking through internet at  
Bhubaneswar**

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

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have introduced train ticket booking through internet at Bhubaneswar on the East Coast Railway zone;

(b) if so, other important stations proposed to be covered with this facility; and

(c) whether the passengers who book their tickets on the internet would have to shell out additional amounts, if so, details thereof?

**Projects in NF Railways**

661. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing projects being executed in the NF Railways, indicating the date of sanction, original and present cost of projects, year-wise allocation and utilization made, progress of work, allocations for 2003-2004 alongwith the target set; and

(b) the details of additional budgetary support received from various sources to complete those projects?

**Training and supervision in Railways**

662. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 65 per cent of the causes of train accidents are attributed to human error;

(b) whether this reflects a low standard of training and supervision in railways; and

(c) if so, what are Government views on this?

**Ultrasonic flaw detection test during  
Monsoon**

663. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for Railways to periodically patrol and run checks, including 'Ultrasound Flaw Detection Test', on the railway tracks, particularly during monsoon seasons and areas prone to heavy rainfall, landslides and shifting of land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Konkan Railway Corporation had not undertaken the regular checks, including netting of the vulnerable areas, resulting in the recent accident on the Karwar-Ratnagiri Sector; and

(d) if so, what measures are being contemplated to ensure compliance of safety exercises by the Railways for prevention of accidents?

**Daitari-Banspani rail line**

664. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the inordinate delay in the completion of Daitari Banspani line in Orissa;

(b) the progress of that line as on date;

(c) the target date set for the completion of that line; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the construction of that line?

**Beggars in Karnataka Express**

665. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that beggar menace in Karnataka Express has increased;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) action taken in this regard?

**SEB's dues to railways**

666. DR. ABRAR AHMED:  
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the State Electricity Boards who owe huge amount to Railways as on 30th June, 2003;
- (b) whether Railways has taken up the matter with State Chief Ministers for clearance of the dues; and
- (c) if so, the results thereof?

**Recruitment of staff in Coaching Depots**

667. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has decided to recruit 14,000 personnel at Coaching Depots for 188 originating stations;
- (b) if so, region-wise details of the employees going to be recruited; and
- (c) whether it includes already announced recruitment of 20,000 Group 'D' employees during the current year?

**Allocation for rail projects in Orissa**

668. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total funds allocated for doubling, electrification of railway lines and other railway projects in Orissa during the last five years;
- (b) the total Budget allocated and amount for which utilisation certificate received during the last five years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that major portion of Railway Budget allocated to Orissa is not being utilised; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Operational division of NF Railway in Assam**

669. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to set up more divisions on Northern Railway and other zones;
- (b) whether Government of Assam has demanded the setting up of another operational division of the NF Railway in Assam, besides the two operational divisions in Alipurduar and Kalihar in Bihar, if so, the justifications and grounds adduced in support of the Assam Government's demand; and
- (c) Government's reaction and response thereto?



**Additional bogies for Godavari  
"Pushkarmas"**

670. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Central Railway proposes to run 25 special trains and attach additional bogies in trains passing through Rajahmundry for forthcoming Godavari 'pushkarmas';

(b) what other facilities Government are going to provide to pilgrims attending 'Pushkarmas'; and

(c) the number of days these trains will run?

**Agartala-Sabroon rail line**

671. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways are going to take up any plan to connect the capital cities of the North-Eastern States by railway lines;

(b) progress made towards laying of railway lines from Agartala to Sabroon in Tripura; and

(c) whether the provision of fund will be made to start the preliminary work of railways from Agartala to Sabroon during the current financial year?

**Introduction of Kaifi Azmi Express**

672. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received to introduced a direct train from Mumbai to Azamgarh *via* Bandra, Vapi, Surat, Bhusawal and Varanasi by the name of 'Kaifi Azmi Express' in the fond memory of the renowned poet Kaifi Azmi; and

(b) if so the action taken, so far, to introduce the above train?

**Demolition of educational Institute at  
Kalyan**

† 673. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 722 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd November, 2001 and state:

(a) the verdicts made by various courts so far at different levels in respect of the litigation filed in the court against demolishing the building of an educational institute at Kalyan, Maharashtra, in 1998;

(b) the current status thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government for the speedy disposal thereof?

**Investigation into derailment of  
Magadh Express**

674. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the findings of the investigation in the recent derailment of Magadh Express in Bihar;

(b) whether it was indeed a case of sabotage by anti social elements as reported in the media;

(c) if so, whether anyone has claimed the responsibility behind the derailment; and

(d) what action Government have taken to punish the guilty?

---

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Investigation of train tragedy in Punjab**

675. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the finding of the investigations in the recent train tragedy in Punjab;

(b) whether the main reasons for fatalities was because of smoke inhalation or burns or any other cause;

(c) what was the cause of fire on the train;

(d) whether the RPF has been instructed to conduct random check on passengers baggage at all major stations for inflammable materials before boarding train;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Statement by railway officials at accident site**

676. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in earlier accidents and even after the recent derailment of Magadh Express, Railway officials at the site gave statements to the Press covering the derailment that this was a case of sabotage;

(b) if so, whether Railways feels the need to instruct Railway officials to restrain from making such statements to the Press about possible causes of accidents before the investigation of each rail mishap is completed;

(c) whether Railways is willing to release transparent investigation reports on all rail mishaps in future; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Rail line between Samdari and Sajjai**

677. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of passenger trains running between Samdari-Barmer-Sajjai of Rajasthan;

(b) whether there has been inordinate delay in laying of railway lines in that section;

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

(d) action contemplated by Government to expedite the rail passenger service?

**Commercial use of surplus land**

678. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVU-KKARASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways has dropped its Plan to commercially exploit its surplus land resources;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) if not, the progress made in this regard?

**Porters at Sikar Railway Station**

679. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway authorities provide the red shirt/dress to all the licensed porters working in the various railway stations of the country;

(b) whether such dresses have not been provided to the licensed porters working in Sikar Railway Station of Rajasthan;

(c) whether in the absence of wheeled trollies, the porters have to carry heavy loads of luggages on their head in that station;

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

(e) steps contemplated by Government to improve the service conditions of the porters of Sikar Railway Station?

#### **Rakes carrying coal to S.E. Railways**

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

(a) number of rakes made available to M/s. Singh Brothers during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 for carrying Coal to Sanjay Gandhi Thermal Power Station from Birsinghpur Railway Station under S.E. Railways;

(b) whether amount of demurrage charges, if any, was claimed from the party, year-wise & amount;

(c) whether it is a fact that the demurrage charges, thus claimed, were written off;

(d) if so, who had given the 'write off' orders; and

(e) how Government propose to realise the demurrage charges?

#### **Safety measures after accidents in Konkan Railways**

681. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways after reviewing the cause of Konkan Railway accident, in which more than 50 persons were killed, have decided to take certain new safety measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether these measures will be taken on other railway sections also?

#### **Traffic disruptions due to landslides in Konkan Railways**

682. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the traffic disruption due to landslides have become frequent on the Konkan Railways as the terrain falls in the high monsoon range; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what measures are proposed to be adopted to prevent such landslides during monsoon season and make the prestigious Konkan Railway less vulnerable to such accidents?

#### **Introduction of Madhushala Express**

683. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received to introduce a direct train from Mumbai to Allahabad by the name of 'Madhushala Express' in the fond memory of the popular poetic compendium of the renowned poet 'Harivansh Rai Bachchan; and

(b) if so, the action taken, so far, to introduce the above train?

#### **Endangered railway tracks in Makrana**

684. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to mining work in Makrana (Rajasthan), there is a grave danger to railway tracks, as appeared in the media recently;

(b) if so, action taken or proposed to be taken to avert the situation; and

(c) whether Government propose to conduct any survey for locating such situation in other areas also?

#### **Railway claims tribunal**

685. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claim settlement cases pending with Railway claims Tribunals, zone-wise;

(b) the time likely to be taken to clear the pending claims; and

(c) the details of the measures taken and policy guidelines framed for speedy settlement of claims?

#### **Conversion of Kanpur-Kasganj Bareilly section**

686. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the section of Kanpur-Kasganj-Agra and Kasganj-Bareilly metre rail lines have been converted into broad guage; and

(b) if not, the time by which the above conversion work is likely to be completed?

#### **Improvement in working condition of Railway staff**

687. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have implemented the Khanna Committee Report to improve the working conditions of the Railway staff, particularly the Drivers;

(b) what action is being taken to improve the visibility of signals on Rail Tracks especially at accident prone points; and

(c) action taken to improve the living conditions, of Rail Drivers at various Railway stations where they have to stay temporarily while discharging their duty?

#### **Pending projects of guage conversion in Tamil Nadu**

688. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of gauge conversion in Tamil Nadu sector of the Southern Railways;

(b) what is the total length covered so far and the length pending for conversion into BG;

(c) total allocation for these projects; and

(d) by when, they are likely to be completed?

#### **Quality of Rail Neer**

689. SHRI R.P.GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Rail Neer", the packaged drinking water reportedly bottled at the Railway's own bottling plant in Delhi has been introduced for sale at the railway platforms recently;

(b) if so, the details of the project, including steps taken to ensure that the quality of the bottled water conforms to international standards;

(c) plans drawn up, if any, for setting up other similar bottling plants in other parts of the country; and

(d) status of the contracts with the existing vendors suppling packaged water to the railways in different regions?

**Density of rail routes in M.P.**

690. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the railway route length per thousand square km. of area in Madhya Pradesh as on 31st March, 2001;

(b) how it compares with Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) reasons for low density of rail routes in Madhya Pradesh?

**Theft in railway yards**

†692. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of thefts have increased while loading/unloading the goods at the Railway yards during the last three years;

(b) if so, the value of the goods stolen, year-wise/zone-wise;

(c) the number of persons found responsible for these thefts; and

(d) what action has been taken against such persons?

**Derailement of Karwar-Mumbai holiday special**

691. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN  
SHRIMATI SAVITA  
SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karwar-Mumbai holiday special derailed on the night of 22nd June, 2003 causing a major accident resulting in loss of lives and serious injuries to passengers and damage to railway property;

(b) if so, what are the causes of the accident; and

(c) the number of passengers and others who lost their lives and those who were seriously injured;

(d) the extent of loss to railway property; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence of such accidents?

**Decision of Consumer Court on failure of air conditioner**

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

(a) whether the District Consumer Court has recently directed the railway authorities to refund the amount taken from a passenger along with a penalty for the failure of air conditioning services in a super fast express, from New Delhi to Jammu Tawi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the directive of the consumer court has been implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Facilities at Railway Stations in Orissa**

694. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that passengers are facing problems due to non-availability of facilities at various Railway Stations in Orissa;

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of Railway Stations in Orissa where there is no proper arrangement of light and water during night; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve facilities at those stations?

#### **Flouting of safety rules**

695. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of safety rules that are to be followed by passengers, railways; etc.

(b) whether any incident of flouting of safety rules have come to the notice of the Railways during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details of complaints received in the Ministry in this regard; and

(d) action that has been contemplated by the Railways on those complaints?

#### **Fire in Frontier Mail**

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

(a) whether fire broke out in the bogies of Frontier Mail near Ludhiana in the early hours of 15th May, 2003;

(b) if so, the number of passengers who lost their lives and the number of those seriously injured as a result of the accident;

(c) the amount of *ex-gratia* grant paid by the Railways for the deceased and those seriously injured;

(d) whether statutory inquiry by the Commissioner of Railway Safety has been completed; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon?

#### **Refrigerated Coaches**

697. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVU-KKARASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coach Factory has manufactured refrigerated rail coaches for movement of fresh fruits and green vegetables by the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such Coaches to be built; and

(d) by when they will be made available to Railways authorities for commercial utilisation?

#### **Conversion of Sakari-Nirmali rail line**

†698. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of Sakari-Jhanjharpur Nirmali and Jhanjharpur-Loukala meter gauge lines and the separate amount anticipated for broad gauge conversion thereof;

(b) whether these lines located in flood prone area of Indo-Nepal border occupy special importance;

(c) whether Government have disapproved the conversion because of the same being non-remunerative; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review the scheme and undertake the conversion work?

#### **Derailment of Golconda Express**

699. SHRI N.R. DASARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of people killed/injured due to derailment of the Golconda Express train over a bridge onto the road in Warangal; and

---

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the inquiry ordered into the incident and the outcome thereof?

**Publication of enquiry report of Kadalundi mishap**

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

(a) in what manner Railway make use of the Railway Safety Fund for preventing the increasing Railway accidents;

(b) whether Railways have identified any priorities which need immediate attention for averting the Rail mishaps;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Railways published the enquiry commission report of Kadalundi mishap in Kerala;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Railways considers to publish the same; and

(f) how many legal heirs have been given compensations so far and how many cases are still pending?

**Modernization of Institutes of CSIR**

701. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research allocated funds for modernization of its constituent Institutes during the last three years;

(b) if so, the fund allotted year-wise, institute-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether the modernization plan of the Laboratories/Institutes under CSIR needs to be approved by their respective Research Councils;

(d) whether any laboratories/Institutes under CSIR utilised the modernization fund

with approval for Research Council during the last three years;

(e) if so, the action taken if any, for spending modernization fund without approval of Research Council; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Bio-technology policy**

702. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at a recent conference on "The Business of Bio-technology", the President of India said that the country need a Bio-technology Policy for tapping the full potential of the science and using it for economic development;

(b) if so, whether the policy should integrate various areas like production and marketing bio-technology related products; and

(c) if so, what action Government are taking in this regard?

**Transferring technologies to industries**

703. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:  
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the evaluation of CSIR on R&D projects showing two-third of its technologies are unable to be passed to industry;

(b) if so, the reasons for spending on such technologies;

(c) the steps proposed to ensure that CSIR labs do not fail in transferring technology to industry in majority of the cases;

(d) the expenditure incurred on each R&D project during the last two years, and

how many such evolved technologies have been used by the industry; and

(e) how the Tenth Five Year Plan allocation of Rs. 4,545 crores is proposed to be spent keeping in view past performance?

#### **External cash flow for the institutes by CSIR**

704. SHRI A.VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has any guidelines for calculation of External Cash Flow (ECF) for its Institutes;

(b) if so, the details including items taken for calculation of ECF;

(c) the amount of ECF of institutes viz. NISCOM and INSDOC for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, year-wise and institute-wise;

(d) the amount of ECF of NISCAIR for 2002-2003;

(e) whether INSDOC and NISCOM were merged to form NISCAIR;

(f) if so, whether ECF of NISCAIR decreased during 2002-2003 compared to combined ECF on INSDOC and NISCOM during 2001-2002; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Development of AIDS vaccine**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that prototype AIDS vaccine is ready for pre-clinical toxicity studies;

(b) if so, the names of agencies that are developing this vaccine; and

(c) the progress of research and the results achieved, so far?

#### **Protective measures by U.S. against Indian Steel**

706. SHRIP. PRABHAKAR REDDY: SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Companies in the United States have demanded action by the U.S. administration against India for not fulfilling her commitment in checking the surging stainless steel exports in the American Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government has advised the steel companies to go slow on its export to the U.S.A.;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the U.S. administration has taken any protective measures like hike in import duty and Tariff rate quota; and

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

#### **Elimination of subsidy by OECD**

707. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether OECD (Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development) has proposed to eliminate all specific subsidy for the Steel industries for curbing the market distortions in international trade in steel;

(b) if so, what would be its impact on Indian steel industries; and

#### **INDEX**

(Ministry-wise)

Agriculture  
571, 572, 573, 574,  
582, 583, 584, 585,  
Chemical and Fe  
Environment and  
595, 596, 597, 598,  
Food Processing  
604,  
Human Resources  
606, 607, 608, 609,  
617, 618, 619, 620,



(c) whether India has made any effort to ensure support of other steel exporting countries like Brazil, Egypt, etc.; if so, what are their response?

#### **Enactment of Buy Indian Steel Act**

708. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to protect the Indian steel industry, which is passing through rough weather, Government are thinking of enacting Buy Indian Steel Act; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed legislation?

#### **Privatisation of steel plants**

709. SHRI RAMACHANDRA-KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for privatisation of Salem, Chennai and Vishakhapatnam Steel Plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the interests of workers of these Steel Plants after privatisation?

#### **Revival of IISCO**

710. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:  
SHRI GAYA SINGH:  
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for revival of IISCO ( Indian Iron and Steel Company) has since been finalised;

(b) if so, the details and reason for the approval of the scheme;

(c) by what time the package of revival would be put into operation;

(d) whether it is a fact that a number of workers have already opted for VRS at the Kulti Works of IISCO; and

(e) if so, the number of workers opted for VRS and compensation paid to them?

#### **Introduction of Rashtriya Punernirman Vahini Project**

711. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a project named 'Rashtriya Punernirman Vahini' was introduced for the purpose of including the sense of social service in youth of the country;

(b) if so, the date on which the said scheme was introduced and names of States alongwith the places of the country where the said scheme is in force; and

(c) the number of youth included in the said scheme by June, 2003 and whether this scheme is now going to be discontinued?

#### **Sports stadia in Assam**

712. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sports stadia functioning at present under Sports Authority of India, State-wise;

(b) the number of stadia available in Assam under SAI, stadium-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to construct new stadia in Assam during the period from 2003-05, keeping in view of National Games to be held in the State during 2005; and

(d) if so, the details alongwith the budget allocation made for the same, location-wise?

**Rashtriya Punernirman Vahini Yojana  
in M.P. and Chhattisgarh**

†713. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh where Rashtriya Punernirman Vihini Yojana has been launched;

(b) whether Government are considering to include some more districts in this scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Performance in international athletics  
meets**

714. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that our lacklustre performance in international athletics meets is due to factors like lack of continuity of training, our coaches being handicapped because of lack of knowledge upgradation, indifferent attitude of sports bodies on initiating actions against drug offenders etc.; and

(b) if so, whether any concerted approach is being adopted to overcome these obstacles, and if so, the details thereof?

**WADA sanctions**

715. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) in the wake of recent incidences of dope cases involving Indian athletes/sportsmen in large numbers, what corrective steps have been taken by the Indian Olympic Association/Government;

(b) whether India is a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Agency declaration and if so, whether India has cleared its past and present membership dues to WADA; and

(c) whether it is a fact that WADA's sanctions against an erring member country would deny the country the right to carry the National Flag on Olympic ceremonies and non-playing of National Anthem for the winning athlete/team?

**Sports competitions for women**

†716. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government organise the women sports competitions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of such competitions organised during the last three years including the current year, year-wise and place -wise?

NEW DELHI;  
The 19th July, 2003  
Asadha 28, 1925 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

# **I N D E X** (Ministry-wise)

<b>Agriculture</b>	: 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585,
<b>Chemicals and Fertilizers</b>	: 586, 587, 588,
<b>Environment and Forests</b>	: 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599,
<b>Food Processing Industries</b>	: 600, 601,
<b>Human Resource Development</b>	: 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654,
<b>Ocean Development</b>	: —
<b>Railways</b>	: 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700,
<b>Science and Technology</b>	: 701, 702, 703, 704, 705,
<b>Steel</b>	: 706, 707, 708, 709, 710,
<b>Youth Affairs and Sports</b>	: 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716.