

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Thursday, the August 25, 2005/Bhadrapada 3, 1927 (Saka)*

(Ministries: Prime Minister; Agro and Rural Industries; Atomic Energy; Coal; Communications and Information Technology; External Affairs; Labour and Employment; Ocean Development; Overseas Indian Affairs; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Planning; Science and Technology; Shipping, Road Transport and Highways; Small Scale Industries; Space; Statistics and Programme Implementation; Youth Affairs and Sports)

Total number of questions —155

Development of cottage industries in Gujarat

3124. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for the development of cottage industries in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government thereon;

(d) the total amount allocated to the State for this purpose during each of the last two years; and

(e) the growth rate of the cottage industries in the State?

Projects financed by KVIC

3125. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects that can be solely financed by KVIC through KVIB, but need not have bank-links;

(b) the number of such projects that had to be closed-down upto 31st March, 2005;

(c) the number of projects set up in the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 under margin money schemes in each State and Union Territory and the number of people involved in them; and

(d) the number of projects abandoned by KVIC and the amount turned into non-performing assets on this account upto 31st March, 2005?

Khadi production in Chhattisgarh and Orissa

†3126. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of hand spun and hand woven Khadi, Woolen and Silk Khadi

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

produced in Chhattisgarh and Orissa during last three years;

(b) the quantity of mineral, forest crop, agro and food, chemical and polymer, hand made paper produced and manufactured during the same period in both States alongwith details of production in rural engineering sector, State-wise;

(c) the assistance provided by Khadi and Village Industries Commission each year; and

(d) the names of said units of Khadi and Rural Industry, quantity produced alongwith the assistance provided?

Investment in nuclear energy

3127. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal/project to invest more in nuclear energy and to increase share of nuclear energy in the economy's overall energy mix;

(b) if so, the steps taken in detail for above and new project formulated, if any, State-wise, as on today;

(c) if so, the details including present share of nuclear energy in overall energy mix, State-wise as on today;

(d) if so, whether there is any attempt to opening up nuclear power generation sector for participation by private players; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including private players shown interest to enter nuclear energy sector and action taken?

Selection of new companies for power generation

†3128. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Thermal Power Corporation Limited is being considered for entrusting the responsibility of increasing power generation in the field of atomic energy in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Government have also chosen other companies to be entrusted with the responsibility in the field of atomic energy; and

(d) if so, the names of such companies and the criteria fixed for selection?

Share of nuclear energy

3129. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open civilian nuclear energy facilities to international inspection and safeguards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether nuclear power field will be open to foreign suppliers of nuclear fuel to reactors and foreign investors;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if so, whether the domestic private sector participation in the nuclear energy programme will be allowed;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the present share of nuclear energy in overall energy mix and the cost of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

production of nuclear energy, thermal energy and hydro power, State-wise till date?

Coal exploration

3130. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had asked the Coal India Ltd. to expand its capacity of coal exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the demand for coal is likely to be increased by 20 tonnes in the near future; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Decontrol of coal prices

3131. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decontrolled the prices of coal mined by Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to safeguard the interest of the company; and

(c) the details of the benefits accruing to the State Governments as a result of this decision?

Fixation of loading and transportation rate by SECL

†3132. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether loading/transportation rates

for Ex-servicemen companies engaged in Gevra/Deepka mines situated at SECL have been fixed on the basis of the recommendation of the Price Water House;

(b) if so, the estimated capacity of loader and tipper and whether it is less or more in comparison to real loading and transportation done during the last year;

(c) the extent of increase and to what extent there has been difference in the fixation of rates; and

(d) the loss SECL has to suffer in a year due to this?

New projects to increase coal production

3133. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified new projects to increase the coal production to bridge the widening demand-supply gap;

(b) if so, the details of new projects identified in different States; and

(c) by when, Government are likely to start new projects?

Reduction in coal linkage for power station in Rajasthan

3134. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for reducing the coal linkage for the power stations of Rajasthan despite maintaining of PLF above 80-85 per cent by them; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) what action are being taken by Railway Board for transportation of coal to the extent of full linkage quantity for the power station of Rajasthan?

Demand of coal

†3135. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR
PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR
JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time-bound scheme has been formulated with a fixed target to meet the demand of coal in the country with the coal produced indigenously;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the demand of coal can be fulfilled with the coal produced indigenously by abolishing the monopoly on Government coal; and

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

Increase in the production of coal

3136. DR. T. SUBBARAMI
REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR
SANGHI:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) has recast its production plan in order to meet country's non-coking coal requirement by 2010-2011;

(b) if so, whether under the revised plan CIL would augment production to a minimum of 20 MT every year beginning from 2005-06;

(c) whether according to this scheme

production would increase to 363 MT by 2006-07 from 323 MT in 2004-05;

(d) if so, to what extent this production schedule would meet coal shortage in the country; and

(e) whether Government is hopeful of providing sufficient coal to power projects which have been suffering shortage of coal during the year 2005?

Development of coal blocks by SECL

3137. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) propose to develop 26 virgin coal blocks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this would enhance the production capacity of the SECL and help to bridge the gap between demand and supply?

Lignite mining

3138. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of locations with quantum of lignite, both already mined and proposed to be mined;

(b) whether lignite mining lease is given/proposed to be given to the private sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Coal production

3139. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI BALAVANTALIAS BAL
APTE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of coal produced in the

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the production of coal in the country is much higher than other minerals;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the value of coal in terms of rupees produced during the year 2004-05;

(e) whether Government are aware that productivity of coal in the country is very less in comparison to other coal producing countries;

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

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the productivity in coal sector?

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of criminal cases and departmental enquiries are pending against the officials working with Coal India Limited as on 31st July, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and category-wise;

(c) the number and names of the officers suspended or continuing with their jobs, company-wise; and

(d) the names of charge sheeted officers to whom promotions have been given and those who have not been given promotion during the last three years?

Capacity expansion in coal sector

3140. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to meet demand-supply gap, Government are seriously considering of creating an additional capacity of 70 lakh tonnes in the next seven-eight years;

(b) if so, the details of the capacity expansion proposed by Government;

(c) whether the proposal has been sent to the CCEA;

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the CCEA; and

(e) the details of mines in which capacity is proposed to be enhanced?

Cases pending against officials of CIL

†3141. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

Handing over of land to owner after mining

†3142. SHRISURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the formulation and implementation of a policy regarding handing over the land which has been acquired for coal and other mining works to their owners after the completion of mining activities;

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these people are given compensation and a member of the family whose land is acquired is given employment in coal institutions; and

(d) if so, the details of the land acquired during the last three years alongwith the details of the landlords given compensation and employment to one of their family member?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Earth station of VSNL

3143. SHRI C. RAMACHAND-
RAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether ICO Global Communica-
tion has issued a press advertisement for
the sale of its Earth station in VSNL
complex in Chhattarpur, New Delhi and if
so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the company has taken
permission for the transaction which
involves sale of sensitive equipments from
concerned Government agencies and if so,
the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the action proposed to be
taken against the company for unauthorised
sale including, if necessary, sealing of earth
station at VSNL premises?

**New technology for broad band
services**

3144. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will
the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BSNL's
mobile base has crossed the one crore mark;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the
BSNL does not operate in most of the
lucrative markets;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the
BSNL is planning to introduce new
technologies for broad band services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Telegraph office of Raghunathpur,
Siwan in Bihar**

3145. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will
the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people of
Raghunathpur have to cover a distance of
30 Kms. for sending a telegram to their
District H.Q. Siwan;

(b) whether Government have any
proposal to set up a Telegraph office at
Raghunathpur, Siwan (Bihar);

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Telecom facilities in rural areas of
Kerala**

3146. SHRI THENNALA G.
BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the
Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be
pleased to state:

(a) the scheme for providing telecom
facilities in the rural areas of Kerala;

(b) the total number of villages in Kerala
where wireless and local loop services have
been provided;

(c) the number of villages where no
telecom facilities exist; and

(d) the steps taken to provide telecom
facilities in those villages?

Waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra

3147. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BALAPTE:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for new telephone connections in Maharashtra;

(b) whether some applicants are waiting for over five years for a new connection;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to clear the backlog?

Activation of telephone lines in UP and Bihar

3148. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH
KHAN AZMI:
SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the name of places in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar where telephone lines have been laid but not activated;

(b) the reasons for not activating such lines; and

(c) the action being taken in the matter?

Out of turn telephone connections in Bihar

†3149. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unnecessary delay and negative attitude is being adopted

by the Department in the installations of out of turn telephone connections recommended by Members of Parliament under Bihar Telecommunication Circle;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the period from 1st January, 2001 to 3rd June, 2005; and

(c) whether it is a fact that this issue was discussed seriously in the meeting held between the Officers of Bihar Telecommunication Circle and Members of Parliament on 2nd June, 2005?

R and D activities in IT Sector

3150. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey of US based Centre for the Advanced Study of Indian indicates that there is lack of spending on research and development by the Indian IT industry which would damage the intellectual competencies of the Indian IT Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's efforts to enhance the R and D activities and other innovations in the IT Sector?

Penalty on telephone companies providing poor services

†3151. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to impose penalty on the telephone companies who are providing poor service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Telephone facility at local call rates

†3152. SHRI JANARDAN
DWIVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are considering to provide the telephone facility at local call rates throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would provide such facility on mobile phones also; and
- (d) if so, by when the said facility would be provided?

Broad Band Policy

3153. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the present Broad Band Policy of Government;
- (b) whether any progress has been made in penetration of broad band, internet and personal computer in the country as a result of the new Broad Band Policy;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether it is fact that India still lags very much behind countries like China in penetration of broad band, internet and personal computers; and
- (e) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken in this regard including comparative figures of India and China in this regard?

Revival of Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore

3154. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for the revival of the Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore?

Post offices in the country

3155. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of post offices in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government propose to increase their numbers;
- (c) if so, the State-wise/location-wise details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Pilot Project in Gujarat

3156. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the BSNL Pilot Project for paperless operations in Gujarat;
- (b) whether there is any CAG objection in this matter;
- (c) what action BSNL and DoT has taken in reference to CAG objections;
- (d) whether there is any CVC inquiry issued; and
- (e) whether all the officers involved in the scam have been transferred or not?

Implementation of ERP system in Gujarat

3157. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the BSNL Head Quarter,

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

New Delhi has received any complaint in the matter of implementing Enterprise Resource Planning system in BSNL Gujarat Circle; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by BSNL and DoT?

New post offices in Arunachal Pradesh

3158. SHRINABAMREBIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices set up in North Eastern region particularly in Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the details of amount allocated and spent, so far for setting up new post offices in the region, State-wise?

Software/Hardware exports

3159. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total software export during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the total hardware exports to various countries during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the plans of Government to compete with China as far as hardware exports are concerned;

(d) whether any target has been set for software exports in the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereon?

Bharat Nirman Scheme

†3160. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the plan of Government for expanding telephone network in rural areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a plan of comprehensive investment for improving communication infrastructure in rural area under 'Bharat Nirman Scheme' and it has to be completed within 2-3 years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outline of the future programme;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a large number of consumers have applied for telephones in Buxor (Bihar) and are not being provided with telephone connection since long; and

(e) if so, by when telephone connections could be provided to applicants?

Pending applications for Excel connections

†3161. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for Excel connections pending with B.S.N.L. all over the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that 11,000 applications for Excel connections and 15,000 applications for telephone connections are pending in Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) by when the waiting list would be cleared and the action being taken by Government to avoid pendency of applications in large number?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Speed post facility in U.P. and Chhattisgarh

‡3162. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that certain district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are still deprived of the speed post facility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for non-availability of speed post facility; and
- (d) by when speed post facility would be made available in all these district headquarters?

Indians in Pakistani jails

3163. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indians are languishing in the Pakistani jails since long;
- (b) if so, the number thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the names and addresses of persons belonging to Punjab State; and
- (d) what action Government propose to take to get them released?

Extradition treaties

3164. SHRI LALIT SURI:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the countries in our neighbourhood, West Asia and Europe, where criminals whether Indian or foreigner, take refuge after committing crime in India

and with which we don't have extradition treaties; and

- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to have extradition treaties with those countries?

Prime Minister's foreign visits

3165. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister visited a number of countries during the current year and signed agreements with the Heads of those countries;
- (b) if so, the names of those countries and nature of agreements/discussions held in each case, country-wise;
- (c) whether Heads of certain foreign countries also visited India and signed agreements and held discussions with the Prime Minister during this year; and
- (d) if so, the names of the countries and the nature of agreements/discussions held with Indian leaders, country-wise?

UN convention on Law of the Seas

3166. SHRIMATI PREMA
CARIAPPA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the UN Convention on Law of the Seas (UNCLOS) set a 2009 deadline for countries to submit their claims about the outer limit of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical mile exclusive economic zone;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the UNCLOS requires that, if dispute is not settled, the disputed water would be declared International Water; and

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details of various claims made by India and their status with regard to claims of neighbouring countries?

Border trade between India and China

3167. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has shown its willingness to talks on border trade with India in Kashmir;

(b) if so, to what extent agreement between India and China on border trade through Kashmir has been reached;

(c) what are main features of the same;

(d) whether Pakistan would also be involved in this agreement;

(e) whether they have also clarified that the "Line of Actual Control" in "next step" in boundary talks between two countries; and

(f) whether India and China during Chinese Premier visit to India in April, 2005 signed agreements on guiding principles and political parameters to resolve the boundary dispute?

Thailand's Prime Minister visit to India

†3168. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI PYARELAL
KHANDELWAL:
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS
KAUR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister of Thailand had recently visited India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the leaders with whom Prime Minister of Thailand had held talks;

(d) the issues on which the leaders of both the countries were in consensus; and

(e) the details of the agreements and MoUs signed with him?

Agency to assist Indians imprisoned in foreign jails

3169. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any special agency to track and deal and assist Indians who are being held in various prisons around the world;

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

(c) to what extent this agency has been able to focus on arranging helpful release all over the world during the last three years;

(d) what steps Government propose to strengthen the existing machinery to help Indians in difficult straits all over the world; and

(e) the details of such plans finalized by Government?

Issuance of short time visas

3170. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan High Commission in India is not issuing short time visa for various category applicants as our Indian High Commissioner office is issuing to Pak-Nationals;

(b) whether there was any mutual understanding for issuing such visas usually to various categories; and

(c) whether Government have taken up this matter with Pakistan Government or Pak consulate in Delhi?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Credit to African nations

3171. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have promised to extend \$500 million in concessionary credit to eight African nations;

(b) if so, whether Government had held talks with any of the African nations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details discussed in the meeting; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

Submission of passport applications

†3172. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been made mandatory to take prior date through internet for submission of application for new passport;

(b) if so, whether this rule is applicable in Mumbai only;

(c) if so, whether there is any other facility provided to the person not able to use internet or the uneducated person; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore and time expected to be consumed for the issuance of new passport now?

Cross border terrorism

3173. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the cross-border terrorism disrupted the peace talks between India and Pakistan;

(b) whether Government have detected any terrorist camps on the border line of India and Pakistan and the number of intruders arrested and detained in prison at present; and

(c) the present stage of peace talks?

Infiltration into Indian territory

†3174. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS
BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN
PANY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Peoples Liberation Army of China have infiltrated into Indian territory, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the policy of China regarding Arunachal Pradesh;

(d) whether China considers Arunachal Pradesh as an Indian Territory; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Joint Steering Committee between India and China

3175. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have agreed to set up a Joint Steering Committee to promote collaborations between the two countries in information technology and other sectors of science and technology;

(b) if so, the details of the discussion held in this regard and outcome thereof; and

(c) the progress achieved, so far?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Agreements with Bangladesh

†3176. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the matters discussed and agreements signed during his visit to Bangladesh in the first week of August;

(b) whether talks were held with Bangladesh regarding border problem, fencing the border, illegal infiltration, anti-India camps operating in Bangladesh, Myanmar-Bangladesh-India gas pipeline, Kolkata-Dhaka bus service etc.;

(c) if so, the matters regarding which talks were held and the agreements were signed; and

(d) whether any time-bound programme has been formulated to implement them?

Multipolar world order

3177. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian and Chinese Presidents who met in Kremlin on 1st July, 2005 declared that the answer to most of the evils experienced by the present global society would go once a multipolar world order takes shape;

(b) whether most experts on this subject suggest India as a natural partner in the suggested scenario; and

(c) whether country is prepared for this eventuality?

Renovation of Bahadurshah Zafar's Mazar in Rangoon

3178. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the

mausoleum of the last Mughal Emperor and the freedom fighter Bahadur Shah Zafar in Rangoon is in very bad condition;

(b) whether Government are aware of the damage and decay of the Mazar;

(c) what steps are being taken to renovate the Mazar and give this leader of the first war of Independence a befitting memorial; and

(d) whether Government have made any plans to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the 1857 war of Independence in Rangoon to pay tribute to the last Mughal Emperor?

Strategy to eliminate unemployment

3179. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that from 1991 to 2001 the number of jobless jumped from 14 million to nearly 45 million;

(b) if so, whether these figures are based on registered unemployed with the Employment Exchanges all over the country;

(c) if so, the broad categories of such unemployed persons and what measures Government are adopting to gradually engage them in some kind of gainful activities; and

(d) what is the long-term strategy to eliminate unemployment in rural and urban areas?

Assistance to agricultural labourers in Madhya Pradesh

†3180. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes in operation in Madhya Pradesh for providing

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

assistance to the agricultural labourers in case of accidents;

(b) whether any grant is provided by the Central Government for the same; and

(c) the decision taken by the Central Government regarding the continuity of Centrally sponsored Agriculture Social Security Scheme, 2001?

Modernization of EPFO

3181. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of EPF members in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total contribution received by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a huge difference between the actual members of EPF and what is claimed by EPFO; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to modernize the EPFO?

State of rickshaw pullers

3182. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of hand-rickshaw pullers still pulling rickshaws to carry people, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by Government, so far, to replace these rickshaws by better mechanised cycle-rickshaws or auto rickshaws as a measure of social justice and to prohibit men from pulling rickshaws?

New jobs through housing sector

3183. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 4 million new jobs are projected in the housing sector by 2015 with the demand for dwelling units likely to raise to 80 million;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been carried out in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Employment in rural areas

†3184. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unemployed persons in the rural areas in the country alongwith the number of skilled/unskilled and educated unemployed persons amongst them; and

(b) the number of skilled/unskilled and educated persons provided employment by Government in rural areas during the last three years?

Agricultural labourers

†3185. DR. FAGUNI RAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agriculture labourers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the period for which agriculture labourers get job and remain jobless in a year; and

(c) the details of the jobs, other than agriculture work available to them so they could get work throughout the year?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Reform of employment exchanges

3186. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last fifteen years, the number of educated youth registering with employment exchanges has decreased drastically;

(b) the number of annual registrations with employment exchanges across the country alongwith the number of placements made during last five year, year-wise;

(c) whether Government are contemplating any steps to reform the institution of employment exchanges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Absorption of contract employees

3187. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many workers are employed for a very long time on contract basis with contractors especially with Government departments;

(b) if so, whether Government propose for permanent absorption of contract employees in those departments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

FDI policy with regard to PIOs

3188. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 430 given in Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2005 and state:

(a) whether according to Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside

India) Regulations, 2000 the provisions of FDI policy in domestic aviation sector also apply to Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs);

(b) if so, the reasons that PIOs are not treated at par with NRIs in domestic aviation sector;

(c) whether the status of PIOs is not clearly defined by Government causing hurdles to PIOs in bringing investments in aviation sector; and

(d) if so, the steps so far taken to clear the ambiguity in this regard?

Conferring more powers to CBI

3189. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a special legislation to govern the functioning of Central Bureau of Investigation to confer more powers to the agency or otherwise;

(b) the grounds, for and against, if any, examined by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details thereof?

Report on corruption

3190. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the recently released Indian Corruption Study to improve Governance 2005, by the Centre for Media Studies;

(b) whether the police tops the list with judiciary and land administration including urban bodies with the education sector topping the ranking on monetary terms;

(c) whether the survey estimates the

monetary value of petty corruption at a whopping Rs. 21,800 crores a year;

(d) whether Bihar is rated most corrupt State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith remedial measures taken by Government?

(d) if so, whether SSC is facing any difficulty in reprocessing the seniority;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the criteria for preparing seniority list of Stenographer Grade-D?

Cases registered by CBI for departmental enquiries

3191. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI had registered 35 departmental enquiries in 2004;

(b) if so, whether out of them 11 are against Gazetted Officers including DIG and SPs;

(c) whether legal officers, Public Prosecutors and legal advisors are also involved in it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken against them?

Seniority of stenographers

3192. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Staff Selection Commission has taken action to process the seniority of candidates who qualified SSC Stenographers Grade-D and Clerks Examination and nominated in various departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Department-wise;

(c) whether SSC has the recruitment related records of those candidates who qualified the SSC Stenographer Grade-D Examination and Clerk Grade Examination in various years;

Deputation of officers

3193. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to put an end to the age old system of deputation of officers to and from Government Departments, Ministries, Legislatures, Public Undertakings and with VIPs/Ministers etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the system promotes heart burning and is capable of lowering the productivity of officers belonging to regular establishment; and

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

Entitlement of Night Duty Allowance

3194. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entitlement for both Night Duty Allowance (NDA) and Over Time Allowance (OTA), the upper pay limit is Rs. 2200/- pm (pre-revised) and not Rs. 6800/- pm (revised);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Board of Arbitration had given the award for removing the pay ceiling of Rs. 2200/- pm for all non-gazetted employees on reference from the Staff Side of National Council (JCM);

(c) whether Government are considering the award for allowing NDA and OTA without any upper pay ceiling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Promotion of UDCs

3195. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Upper Division Clerks of ten years' regular service of Central Secretariat Clerical service have not been promoted as Assistant, so far;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start Limited Departmental Examination for promotion of UDC as Assistant;

(d) the details of the recruitment rules for promotion of UDC as Assistant;

(e) whether there is a stagnation in the promotion of UDC as Assistant; and

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

Vacancies in Ministries

3196. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether different categories of posts are lying vacant in various Ministries for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Ministry-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to fill vacant posts during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Seniority list

3197. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether seniority list of all grades of Central Government employees is

centrally maintained and administered by the Department of Personnel and Training;

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

(c) the basis on which officers belonging to different grades are posted in various Ministries/Departments;

(d) whether some officers get to officiate in higher grades on *ad-hoc* basis in some Ministries/Departments, others posted in other Ministries, though belong to the same Select List and senior to such officiating officers, do not get such benefit; and

(e) if so, the details and how this anomaly is proposed to be rectified?

Men women ratio in Government Offices

3198. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ratio percentage of employment between men and women is only 91.98: 8.02 in Central Government offices and 92.4: 7.6 in Central PSUs;

(b) if so, whether any study has been undertaken or proposed to be undertaken to ascertain reasons for such low employment rate of women in Government sector;

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

(d) whether recruitment rules would be amended to provide reservation and age and educational qualification relaxation for women with a view to enhance their strength in Government service; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Manpower in CBI

3199. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to increase the manpower in CBI through direct recruitment process;

(b) whether Government are also thinking of reducing the number of officers joining CBI on deputation;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a sudden change;

(d) the details of vacancies at the Group 'A' and 'B' officers in CBI; and

(e) since how long each vacancy is lying vacant?

UPSC examination centres

†3200. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether UPSC are having more than one examination centres in certain States;

(b) if so, the number of examination centres in Uttaranchal;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that people belonging to a particular geographical administrative area are demanding to set up an examination centre of UPSC in Almora; and

(d) if so, by when the said examination centre would be set up in Almora?

Remarriage by employees after availing reservation benefits

3201. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and incidence of cases since 2001 in which employees having

obtained jobs or promotion taking benefit of caste/tribe based reservations have divorced or otherwise abandoned their backward caste spouses in order to marry the second time, girls from upper castes; and

(b) the number of cases and the proportion of cases of officials recruited or promoted on the basis of caste/tribe who were involved in cases of corruption or misbehaviour?

Shortage of manpower in CBI

3202. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is facing acute shortage of manpower at different levels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this shortage is hampering investigation into important cases; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to make up the shortage of CBI?

Recruitment on the basis of fake certificates

3203. SHRIMATISYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a SC/ST fake certificates scam and Scheduled Castes Commission has sought for complete information on all SC recruitments made over the last one decade in Central Ministers, Delhi Government and various autonomous bodies;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of candidates recruited with fake SC/ST certificates, Ministry-wise/Department-wise;

(c) the action Government have initiated against such employees; and

(d) whether Government would take back their life long earnings of those who found guilty?

Development of Trans-Himalayan region

†3204. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission is working on any action plan to preserve the salient features of Trans-Himalayan region and to remove the difficulties coming in the way of economic development of this region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether keeping in view the special condition of these regions the Commission propose to set up a Trans-Himalayan Development Cell; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken to remove the difficulties coming in the way of development of these regions?

Committees under Prime Minister

†3205. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Committees constituted under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister;

(b) the details of the dates of the meetings of these Committees during the last two years;

(c) the details of decision taken in these Committees; and

(d) the details of implementation of those decisions?

Private sector to develop basic infrastructure

†3206. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allowing entry of private sector to develop basic infrastructure in the country has not yielded satisfactory result so far;

(b) if not, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that certain recommendations have been made by National Advisory Council in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Investment during Tenth Plan

†3207. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an investment of Rupees 4,081,500 crores was proposed to be made during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if not, what was the amount proposed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that now the amount has been reduced to Rupees 3,582,200 crores;

(d) if not, the amount proposed; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) the areas to witness lower amount of capital investment due to the above reduction; and the extent of reduction, area-wise?

BPL population

†3208. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the districts where more than 50 per cent people are living Below the Poverty Line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Projects proposed by Tamil Nadu

3209. SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several projects proposed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu are pending for approval of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for such pendency;

(c) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu have requested for the approval of the pending projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when these projects are likely to be approved?

Plan outlay for NER

3210. SHRI T. R. ZELIANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount sanctioned for annual plan outlay for NER States for the year 2005-06; and

(b) the details of the targets set for agro

industrial production and employment opportunities in the annual plan, State-wise?

Conversion of two-lane highways into four/six lanes

3211. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert certain two-lane highways into four/six lanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the project would be completed?

Steps for poverty alleviation

3212. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken during the last five years to alleviate poverty; and

(b) the details of schemes and programme formulates by Government which have been successful?

Funds for projects in Kerala

3213. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for the development projects in Kerala during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the funds allocated have been released;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Natural resources of Madhya Pradesh

‡3214. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh is not able to fully utilize its natural resources due to shortage of capital resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the special efforts being made by the Central Government to provide capital resources to the State so that backwardness of the State could be eliminated?

Data regarding poverty

3215. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether marked disparities have been observed in the data about the extent of poverty prevailing in the country as per statistics provided by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and the National Account Statistics;

(b) if so, the latest estimates provided by the two organizations about the population living Below Poverty Line in urban and rural India, as at the beginning and middle of the Tenth Five Year Plan and as per Mid-Term Appraisal, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the discrepancy; and

(d) the special steps adopted and being adopted to achieve the Tenth Plan targets?

Rehabilitation in Tsunami hit areas

3216. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether permanent rehabilitation measures were initiated for housing, education, fisheries and employment in Tsunami hit areas;

(b) if so, the details of fund sought, provided and utilized for above purpose as on today, State-wise;

(c) if so, the details of various heads under which the expenditure of Tsunami fund is shown as on today, State-wise;

(d) if so, the details of rehabilitation package and the agencies through which above package is implemented as on today, State-wise, item-wise;

(e) whether any State Government diverted the fund allotted for Tsunami relief to other purposes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Commercialization of research

3217. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to allow commercialization of technological and scientific research being carried by Indian science institutes and universities;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that there is dearth of scientists and other professional in major research institutes in the country;

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

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to attract and retain the required talent?

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

3218. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that US President George Bush had taken the view on 9th August, 2001 that embryonic Stem Cell Research is the

‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

leading edge of a series of moral hazards and he would be banning federal funding for the research; and

(b) what is the position of Government of India on this question?

Development of Mumbai and Pune as Bio-tech Hubs

3219. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI VASANT CHAVAN:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

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

(a) whether there are plans to develop Mumbai and Pune in Maharashtra as Bio-tech Hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof and cost of the plan; and

(c) the steps taken and progress made in implementing the plan so far?

Tax holiday for drug research and development

3220. SHRI MANOJ
BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHAND-
RAIAH:

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

(a) whether Government are planning to grant a ten year tax holiday to pharmaceutical companies engaged in research and development activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the pharmaceutical companies doing research and development activities already enjoy huge tax exemption under the existing law and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount spent by five top pharmaceutical firms on Research and Development activities during last three years, year-wise and firm-wise; and

(e) the details of medical research done during the period?

Rules made by Governing Body of CSIR

3221. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Governing Body of CSIR has the powers to formulate its own rules being an Autonomous body for its Scientific and Technical Staff as well as Administrative Staff;

(b) if so, whether any new and specific rules have been framed by the Governing Body of CSIR which are not in conformity with Government rules; and

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

Buying of WRF from USA

3222. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Science and Technology is buying a new numerical Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model from the National Centre for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder Colorado, USA; and

(b) if so, the cost involved in purchasing WRF model?

Setting up of bio-tech parks

3223. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country lags

behind several countries in the field of bio-technology;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken for the development of bio-technology in the country;

(c) whether bio-tech parks are proposed to be opened in a few States in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the facilities to be available thereon, State-wise;

(e) whether any bio-tech park is likely to be set up in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Investment in bio-tech sector

3224. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more investors are showing keen interest for investing on bio-pharmaceuticals, bio-informatics and Bio-tech services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of investment expected in the above sectors in the next five years; and

(d) the investment that bio-tech sector got since 1997, year-wise?

Checking the import of G.M. foods

†3225. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI JANARDAN
DWIVEDI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that genetically modified food products are being imported unchecked in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that an experiment has revealed the cases of diseases related to kidney, liver, change in blood cells and reduction in reproduction capacity in the mice as a result of eating the genetically modified maize;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check the import of genetically modified food products; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Development of National Waterway-III

3226. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of the development work of National Waterway-III;

(b) whether any proposal seeking sanction to develop the National Waterway submitted by the State Government of Kerala is pending;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) whether Government have conducted any feasibility study for the renovation of waterway from Kollam to Kovalam; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Bridge across river Godavari

3227. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been no response from the NHAI on a survey for a new bridge across the river Godavari;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether such a representation been received from the Road Safety Forum asking for a survey of such a bridge;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps proposed to meet this demand in public interest; and

(e) the time schedule for implementing this demand?

Safety equipments on National highways

†3228. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contractor were to install safety as well as toll equipments within six months on National Highways No. 02 and 08 which have not been installed inspite of lapse of three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the action taken;

(c) whether there is evasion of toll tax on the said highways;

(d) if so, the details of the action taken therefor;

(e) whether the ongoing irregularities in toll tax had been established in the audit done in the months of October-November, 2004 by Price Water House; and

(f) if so, the details of action taken against the concerned contractor and Supervision Consultant by NHAI?

Deteriorating condition of National Highways

3229. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of

the deteriorating situation of National Highways in general and Delhi-Jaipur sector in particular; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to improve it?

CAG report regarding Golden Quadrilateral Project

3230. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG in its report has pulled up NHAI for delay in Golden Quadrilateral project;

(b) if so, whether Rs. 58000 crore NHAI development projects has not much to bolster corridor concepts as envisaged originally with overall performance of phase I at 29 per cent;

(c) whether according to CAG report authority completed only 1,846 km. in terms of completed stretches of target of 6,359 km. by scheduled date of June, 2004; and

(d) if so, the main reason and the steps Government propose to take to implement suggestions made by CAG for completion of Golden Quadrilateral project during 2005-06?

Guidelines for LNG chartering

3231. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to relax

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the guidelines pertaining to LNG chartering to allow the LNG purchaser the choice of carrier for import; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Widening of National Highways in Maharashtra

3232. SHRIDATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for widening of National Highways and converting them into four or six lane roads in Maharashtra is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these proposals are likely to be approved?

Proposal for Central assistance to Maharashtra

3233. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had approved the Maharashtra Government's proposal for Central assistance worth around Rs. 195 crore under the National Coastal Protection Project and included it under the first phase of this project in 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the Central assistance sanctioned therefor; and

(c) the progress made so far in implementation of the project and the reasons for the delay and cost escalation incurred so far on account of the delay?

Construction of National Highways in Haryana

†3234. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new National Highways Government propose to construct in the country during the next three years;

(b) the number of National Highways constructed during the last two years in the country;

(c) the number of National Highways constructed in Haryana during the last two years; and

(d) the number of National Highways Central Government propose to construct in Haryana during the next three years?

Alignment proposal from Rajasthan

†3235. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether another alignment for 349 km. to 357 km. of National Highway No. 76 has been proposed by Rajasthan Government; and

(b) if so, by when it would be approved?

Golden Quadrilateral in Goa

3236. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Golden Quadrilateral covers the State of Goa;

(b) if so, when was the State of Goa made a part of the project;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the details of the project with respect to the State of Goa; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Work on NH-1

3237. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of work relating to the widening of Jalandhar-Pathankot sector of the National Highway No. 1 has been quite slow and by now only about one fourth thereof has been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the slow progress; and

(c) by when the work of widening on the entire sector is likely to be completed?

Forged Smart Cards

3238. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that forged Smart Cards of 1 KB memory instead of 4 KB memory as prescribed by Central Government guidelines are being circulated by manufacturer M/s Smart Chip Limited throughout the country in connivance with Regional Transport Offices;

(b) whether the said company have violated the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take against the above firm and officials in order to curb the issue of forged Smart Cards

throughout the country, especially in the State of Gujarat?

Stilted expressway on Hosur Road

3239. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the work on the 9.5 km. stilted expressway on Hosur Road would be commenced by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) whether it is a fact that IT companies situated in the area were opposing the project; and

(c) the features of this project, and which are the implementing agencies of the project?

Road cum Railway Bridge over Brahmaputra river

3240. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of years that would be required to complete the construction of Bogibil Road cum Railway Bridge over Brahmaputra river in Assam;

(b) whether steps have been taken to strengthen the connecting road from Jonai to Lakhimpur (Part of NH-52) in anticipation of the increase in traffic intensity on this road on completion of the construction of bridge mentioned above;

(c) whether the four-lane corridor road construction is not making any progress in Assam area in comparison to other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

NH-4 in Karnataka

3241. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the on-going road works taken up under golden quadrilateral project on National Highway No. 4 in Karnataka; and

(b) by when the entire work would be completed?

Approval for cruise services

3242. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given approval for operating cruise services on two sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had received proposals to operate cruise services in many other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Productivity of major ports

3243. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the productivity of major Indian ports is very low as compared to ports in developed nations;

(b) whether Government have planned any long-term modernization programme to upgrade ports;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government with regard to enhancing the standards of major ports with the International Standards?

Losses due to Kanwar pilgrimage

†3244. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during religious Kanwar pilgrimage the Delhi-Meerut-Haridwar-Dehradun highway remains closed for motor vehicles;

(b) whether any assessment has been made to find out the losses suffered by both the States each year as a result of the closure of aforesaid highway;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have considered the proposal to construct an alternate route or whether concerned States have been consulted for this possibility; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken for keeping the said highway open for traffic during Kanwar pilgrimage?

Maintenance of NH-2 and 8

†3245. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy losses are being incurred constantly for the last three years due to irregularities and faults in the maintenance of National Highways Nos. 2 and 8 in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of action taken against the contractor in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Setting up of international shipyards

3246. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are exploring the possibility of setting up two international shipyards in the country subject to favourable technical analysis and feasibility; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including new coastal sites/existing shipyards identified, if any, for the purpose with its present status?

Metal scrap at Nhava Sheva

3247. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the pile up of heavy metal scrap at Nhava Sheva International Container terminal is likely to lead to increased congestion this year;

(b) whether it is a fact that heavy metal scrap accounts for 4000-5000 Total Equivalent Unit of total arrivals and unavailability of railway wagons to transport this scrap is adding to the port's troubles; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ease the congestion at JNPT?

Maintenance of NHS in NER

3248. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways (NHs) traversing through the North-Eastern India, in the particular, have been

subjected to repair/maintenance at regular intervals;

(b) the details thereof, including the nature of work carried out on most occasions with particular reference to those carried out in National Highway-53;

(c) the number of bridges along NH-53 in the North-East, including present age of respective structure alongwith details of work for repair/restoration and/or strengthening carried out, in any, in the last three years;

(d) whether any bridge suffered damage recently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, including steps taken for its restoration to vehicular traffic?

Four-laning of NH-5 in Orissa

3249. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction of four-lane highway on the NH-5 in Orissa is moving at a snail's pace;

(b) whether Government are aware that the tardy pace of work is mainly on account of cancellation of contracts and legal battles etc.; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to speed up construction of the highway project?

Charging of toll fees

3250. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NHAI charges toll fees for

use of its highways, bridges, etc. at one-and-a-half times of one way charge if the return journey is performed within 24 hours;

(b) whether this causes hardship to genuine tourists/businessmen travelling by road who may perform return journey after some days; and

(c) whether Government propose to accommodate such genuine travellers under their scheme of allowing discount in case of both ways journey?

Accruals for CRF

3251. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the actual accruals to the Central Road Fund (CRF) has been far out of proportion to the amount derived on the basis of sale of diesel and petrol in the State of Punjab during the last five financial years;

(b) if so, in what way the accruals derived on the basis of sale of diesel and petrol compared with actual approvals;

(c) the amount utilised during the said period from out of CRF for upkeep of State highways;

(d) the precise request and suggestion made by State Government to bring the expenditure made out of CRF in tune with sale-proceeds of petroleum products; and

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

Four laning of Buxar-Patna highway

†3252. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted by Government

this year for maintaining National Highways in Bihar;

(b) whether any scheme is being implemented for converting Buxar-Patna highway into four lane in view of its importance;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith its scheduled time, the amount allotted and the agency involved; and

(d) in what manner it would be ensured that the work is completed in time so as to avoid time and cost overrun?

Works on National Highways in Rajasthan

3253. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways in Rajasthan where widening, extension and repair works have been undertaken during the last three years;

(b) the amount that was allocated for these National Highways and the status of these works;

(c) by when the works are likely to be completed;

(d) whether any proposals have been received from the State Government of Rajasthan of funding the National Highway and notification of new National Highways, and if so, details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any plan to approve these proposals and issue funds?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Amount under CRF for Madhya Pradesh

†3254. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh have urged Central Government to increase the annual amount being provided under Central Road Fund from Rs. 55.60 crores to Rs. 100 crores per annum;

(b) the consideration that is being made over the said demand of the State Government; and

(c) by when the said demand of the State is likely to be fulfilled?

Targets of NHAI

†3255. SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI: SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target set by National Highways Authority of India for execution of its projects during the years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 and the extent to which this target has been achieved year-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in completion of the projects and the financial losses suffered by the Authority for these reasons, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove all such flows in future?

Congestion on roads

3256. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is a lot of congestion on roads in Delhi and other major cities in India; and

(b) if so, whether Government would make a comprehensive scheme to strengthen and popularize Public Transport in the country?

Conversion of vehicles into CNG/LPG

3257. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions governing the nature, type, make and capacity of private and commercial vehicles registered in Delhi that can be converted into CNG/LPG;

(b) the basis for such conditions and the objectives behind it; and

(c) the formalities required to be completed under Motor Vehicles Act for converting a private vehicle into CNG/LPG?

Limit of investment in SSI

†3258. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the limit for capital investment in small scale units under small scale sector is Rupees one crore at present;

(b) whether a proposal is being considered to raise the said limit to five crores;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the benefits likely to be accrued on making the capital investment limit of Rupee Five crores?

Items reserved for SSIs

3259. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are certain items reserved for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the number of such items and details of those which are export oriented;

(c) whether the import of similar items as those reserved for exclusive manufacture in India is allowed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and in what way the interests of SSI are safeguarded?

Dereservation of items from SSI list

3260. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the units under SSI are facing threat of closure due to dereservation of items from SSI list;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to protect the SSI sector; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the reasons for the sickness of SSI sector is non-availability of finance by bankers?

Allocation of coal by ECL, Kolkata

†3261. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA:

PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the rules adopted by Eastern Coalfields Limited, Kolkata for allocation of ECL, coal;

(b) the reasons for non allocation of coal by the company to the small industries, particularly Khurja Pottery Industry, Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to ensure the non-closure of small industries for the lack of coal and its timely supply?

Timely payments to SSIs

†3262. DR. CHHATRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many State Governments sell a major part of the products of small scale industries through wholesale centres and in that situation timely payments are not made and the matter gets worsened due to red tapism and corruption and small scale industrialists are compelled to delay their loan repayment and consequently they are declared as Non-Performing Assets and are the main reasons for their becoming sick units;

(b) if so, steps Government have taken to get rid of the problem; and

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any rule to ensure the timely payment?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Incentive package for SSIs

3263. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to work out a comprehensive incentive package for providing benefits to small scale and medium industries of the country particularly in Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether budgetary allocations is likely to be increased in above States during the financial year 2005-06; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Joint marketing of data

3264. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to join hands with global majors to launch joint marketing of data as well as research missions;

(b) whether the ISRO is also keen on tying up with France to share and market remote sensing data; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Antrix Corporation, ISRO's marketing division has already set up its office in Beijing?

Launching of Russian built satellites

3265. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO has signed up for involvement in two important global navigation systems, the Russian

GLONASS and Europe's GALILEO and hopes to launch some of the replenishment satellites on its launcher;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that ISRO also proposes to launch some Russian built satellites from India in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details of the action plan?

Space partnership

3266. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is shortly going to sign a pact with USA on space partnership;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposed pact is likely to be signed and what advantages would accrue to India as a result thereof?

Constitution of National Statistical Commission

†3267. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to constitute National Statistics Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main purpose to constitute National Statistics Commission; and

(d) by when the said Commission would be constituted?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Scrapping the MPLADS

3268. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to scrap the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS);

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and in what way the MPs would carry on the development of their respective constituencies;

(c) in what manner the fund for MPLADS would be utilized in future;

(d) whether that process be time consuming; and

(e) whether any role would be left to play for district collectors?

Sports hostels in Tamil Nadu

3269. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sports hostels in Tamil Nadu, as on date, location-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of new sports centre targeted to be opened in Tamil Nadu during the current financial year?

Selection of sports persons for Commonwealth Games

†3270. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to change the existing structure of the Sports Council, if so, by when this process would be completed;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that neither essential resources nor coaches in sufficient number are available for players in all the Universities in the country;

(c) if so, whether it would be appropriate for them to participate in ensuing Commonwealth Games; and

(d) whether Government have completed the procedure of selection of sports persons for participation in forthcoming Commonwealth Games and the practice has been started by organising camps, if so, the details thereof?

Setting up of village sports academies

3271. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether traditional sports of Indian Origin (Kabaddi, Kho-Kho etc.) are vanishing gradually as they are not given priority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to provide opportunities to rural sports persons at National and International level by setting up village Sports academy and provide them training and other facilities; and

(d) the details of the funds allocated for sports events of Indian Origin during the last three years, State-wise?

Upgradation of selection system

3272. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that genuine sports persons are not getting a

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

chance to compete in various national games and sports events in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the system of selection of players in various States by their respective games or sports association is totally tainted and leads to all forms of favouritism;

(c) whether Government have found a way to upgrade such systems of selections in various States;

(d) if so, the details of the upgradation done to select the best sportsmen and talent for all games in the country; and

(e) the details of steps proposed to improve the system of selection of sports persons?

Permission for All Punjab Games

†3273. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "All Punjab Games" were held in the State of Punjab between the Punjab State in our country and Punjab province of Pakistan;

(b) whether the State Government of Punjab had sought any permission from the Central Government or any pre-information was given therefor;

(c) if so, whether permission for such kind of sports meet between States can be given; and

(d) if not, whether the Central Government have made any enquiry from the State Government of Punjab?

Non-utilisation of funds by National Sports Federations

†3274. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National

Sports Federations do not utilise the financial assistance given by Government in a appropriate way; and

(b) the details regarding modes adopted by these sports federations for utilising the funds?

Lack of communication by SAI

3275. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to reported mismanagement and lack of communication by Sports Authority of India (SAI), the Indian fencing team being denied entry in the Asian Fencing Championship to be held in Malaysia in July, 2005;

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian team was given rigorous training by a foreign coach engaged by SAI and an amount of around Rupees five lakh was spent at the camp organised at Imphal; and

(c) if so, the reasons for which the above mentioned Indian team not participating at Asian meet?

Youth festival in Venezuela

3276. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are sending a delegation for a youth festival in Venezuela;

(b) if so, what is the criteria for selection;

(c) which are the youth organisation likely to be selected or contacted;

(d) what are the names of delegates and their organisations; and

(e) what is the total cost incurred?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Sports complexes in eastern U.P.

†3277. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sports complexes located in eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are considering to construct well-equipped modern sports complexes in eastern Uttar Pradesh to promote sports;

(c) if so, the places where they would be constructed and names of sports for which facilities would be provided; and

(d) if not, reasons for ignoring the interests of eastern Uttar Pradesh?

Postponement of Assam Games

3278. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Games to be held in Assam has been postponed from the scheduled date;

(b) if so, the reasons for that postponement and by when the new date for the said game is likely to be rescheduled; and

(c) if so, the progress achieved by the State Government for the National Games, so far?

NEW DELHI;
The 19th August, 2005
Shravana 28, 1927 (Saka)

YOGENDRA NARAIN,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

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