

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Thursday, the April 28, 2005/Vaisakha 8, 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

#### **Rural Employment Generation Programme**

3711. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND  
RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Khadi and  
Village Industries Commission has launched  
a rural Employment Generation Programme  
to provide employment to rural  
entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of projects that have  
actually been financed during the last two  
years; and

(d) the amount of aid that has been given  
by the KVIC to them?

#### **Aurther Anderson's recommendations for KVIC**

3712. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY  
SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of  
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be

pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government  
have appointed Aurther Anderson with a  
view to revamp the organizational and  
functional restructuring of KVIC;

(b) if so, whether he has submitted the  
report;

(c) the recommendations made by  
Aurther Anderson;

(d) what action his Ministry have taken  
on the recommendations made by Aurther  
Anderson;

(e) whether it is also a fact that  
Government constituted an expert  
committee for revamping of KVIC; and

(f) if so, the reasons for appointing this  
Committee when there was already some  
one looking into the entire gamut of issues  
of KVIC?

**Funds under PMRY in Tamil Nadu**

3713. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed youth provided employment under the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the amount of fund allocated to various States particularly Tamil Nadu under this scheme during the last two years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the measures being taken by Government to make this scheme more effective in the country?

**Agreement between KVIC and IIT Delhi**

3714. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that KVIC and IIT, Delhi, have entered into an agreement to boost KVIC;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement;

(c) when the agreement has been entered into between KVIC and IIT, Delhi; and

(d) the innovative strategy adopted by KVIC with the help of IIT, Delhi, to promote Khadi and Village industries in the country?

**Funds for rural employment generation programme**

3715. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated during

the last three years for implementing Rural Employment Generation Programme through Khadi and Village Industries Commission, State-wise;

(b) the details of financial assistance provided to various categories of people for setting up projects under this scheme; and

(c) whether Government consider providing financial assistance to OBCs as well under the scheme in view of their low socio-economic condition?

**Rural Industries in Bihar**

3716. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Agro and Rural industries in Bihar;

(b) the investment made in those industries;

(c) the total turn over of those industries during the last year; and

(d) the proposals for increasing the Agro and Rural industries in Bihar?

**World Bank assistance for utilization of atomic energy**

†3717. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank is encouraging the secured utilization of the atomic energy;

(b) if so, whether any action plan has been drawn up in the current financial year in the domain of atomic energy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**US aid for commercial atomic generation**

3718. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to tap additional Nuclear Energy Resources;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, indicating the number, generation capacity and location of the new power plants to be set up; and

(c) whether the US has offered cooperation and aid to India in commercial atomic energy generation, if so, Government's response thereto?

**Setting up of nuclear power plant in Maharashtra**

3719. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a nuclear power plant in the western region of the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether any Site Selection Committee has been formed;

(c) if so, whether the report has been submitted to Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Approval of open cast coal mining projects of Mahanadi Coalfields**

3720. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:  
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:  
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government

have proposed to open cast coal mining projects of Mahanadi Coalfields in Orissa to intensify efforts to meet the fuel shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the per annum production capacity of these units and the areas that would be served by these units?

**Reforms in coal sector**

†3721. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coal sector in the country needs wide ranging reforms;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government have submitted a proposal to sell coal through bidding in open market with a view to provide coal to common man in the first phase;

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

(d) the percentage of coal out of total production proposed to be sold through such bidding?

**Use of reclaimed land**

3722. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of land reclaimed by sand and soil filling and plantation after extraction of coal from the same during the last five years;

(b) the area of such reclaimed land undertaken by MCL (Mahanadi Coalfields Limited) Sambalpur in Orissa;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the amount spent by MCL for this purpose since its inception;

(d) the status of such land under MCL, sambalpur at present;

(e) whether there is any scope for alternative use of these lands by the PSU in a cost effective manner; and

(f) if not, can these be handed over to any other organization or its original owner for better use?

#### **Coal trading by private parties**

3723. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to allow private players in coal trading; and

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

#### **Fixation of coal price**

†3724. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the price of coal being supplied to power plants is fixed;

(b) whether there is difference in price of coking coal and coal being supplied to steel companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Coal imports due to substandard indigenous coal**

†3725. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering on procuring coal from foreign countries

due to sub-standard quality of coal being produced in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether N.T.P.C. has refused to purchase coal from some collieries?

#### **Transportation and mining of coal by contractors**

†3726. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the details of actual mining and explored coal are not reported to Government due to the transportation and mining work being given by Government to contractors in Chhattisgarh and as a result of which Government are losing huge revenue;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to entrust the transportation and mining work to private companies in order to protect S.E.C.L. companies from the loss of revenue; and

(c) Government's response thereto and the details of action Government are going to take?

#### **Use of surface minor machines**

†3727. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether quality of coal improves with the use of surface minor machine in coal mining;

(b) the names of mines under Coal India in which surface minor machines are being used and the rates thereof;

(c) whether tender was invited for surface minor machine for coal mining in Gevara/Dipka mine under SECL during 2002-03;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the reasons for not arriving at a decision yet; and

(e) the details thereof?

#### **Coal shortage**

3728. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that because of coal shortage the generation of electricity and manufacturing of steel has been affected, adversely; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to make up the required coal supply?

#### **Closing down of coal mines in Chhattisgarh**

†3729. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total mines closed down in Chhattisgarh as on 31st March, 2005;

(b) the details of coal mines that have been closed down and new ones that have been commissioned during the last three years;

(c) the details of new companies that have been permitted to work along with the names of new companies where they have been permitted to work in; and

(d) the company-wise details of production undertaken by private companies and SECL during the last three years?

#### **Financial support to BSNL**

3730. SHRI ANAND SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL is a commercial enterprise operating on commercial lines; and

(b) if so, why a massive financial support package of Rs. 2700 crores is proposed when the sector is already opened to private, domestic and foreign investment?

#### **Delegation of powers to TRAI**

3731. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI does not have any power to penalise the cellular services operator in case of deficient service by these operators; and

(b) if so, whether Government are intending to give power to TRAI to deal with cellular operators in case of complaints about deficient service?

#### **Demands of BSNL employees**

3732. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the demands placed by the employees of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) how much loss the BSNL has incurred during recent agitation and strike programme of the employees;

(c) whether Government are going to concede to their demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Broadband service in Karnataka**

3733. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the cities in Karnataka so far covered under BSNL broadband service, dataone;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend it to all taluka offices in Karnataka;

(c) whether the Karnataka Government and BSNL have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for introducing broadband services in the State; and

(d) if so, the action taken if any, to implement the above MoU in Karnataka?

#### **Improvement of telephone services in J & K**

3734. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the main reasons for unsatisfactory telephone services especially in the Border Areas of Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) the steps taken to improve the telephone services;

(c) whether there is any proposal to install higher capacity exchanges and laying Optical Fibre Cables in border areas of J & K; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Complaints against BSNL in North-Eastern Region**

3735. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of complaints received by Government against the

functioning of BSNL in the North-Eastern Region since January, 2004 and till-date, State-wise; and

(b) the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Improvement in the cellular services in Bihar**

†3736. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cellular services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. have become so poor in Patna and other district headquarters of Bihar that often, the network does not function and has technical problems; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these problems are likely to be rectified?

#### **Demand-supply scenario of BSNL mobile phones in Orissa**

3737. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Districts of Orissa have not been fully covered by BSNL cellular service;

(b) if so, the districts which have been left out;

(c) whether there is a big gap in the demand-supply scenario for BSNL mobile phone service in Orissa; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the number of towers set up so far and the target for the current year in providing mobile phone service in Orissa?

instead of filling such vacancies through direct recruitment?

#### **Amendment in the Indian Patent Act**

3738. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the amendments in the Indian Patent Act, 1970 through ordinance issued in December 2004 would seriously hit the Information Technology boom in India;

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

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard so as to save the software sectors from being patented?

#### **Absorbition of extra departmental employees**

3739. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of extra departmental employees (EDS) attached to various post offices in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that many of them have put in 5 to 10 years and even more years of service; and

(c) whether Government are considering to absorb them in the department against regular vacancies in group 'C' and 'D' posts

#### **Expansion of GSM service in Tamil Nadu**

3740. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA-SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of more communication towers for Global Short Messaging (GSM) services that will be established in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the area expected to be covered this year for expanding the GSM service in Tamil Nadu?

#### **Setting up of Quality Service Fund**

3741. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the universal postal union of the U.N. has set up mail "Quality Services Fund" in the country for improving the quality of services in mail operations;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) the States that have been covered under Quality Services Fund;

(d) how many projects have so far been implemented under their scheme, State-wise; and

(e) the details of States where the projects have so far been implemented?

**Providing of telephone connections in  
Gautam Budh Nagar**

‡3742. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for making declaration of slashing or hiking fixed monthly rent rate by General Managers throughout the country and giving explanations for its implementation;

(b) the reasons for making declaration by the General Manager, Gautam Budh Nagar Telephone Exchange on 29-01-03 for charging monthly rent of Rs. 110/- and recovery of last two months alongwith reasons for hiking the same without any prior notice;

(c) the details of the principle basis for rural and urban evaluation and classification throughout India; and

(d) the reasons for not providing connections within scheduled time limit in Delta Exchange under Gautam Budh Nagar?

**Black marketing of BSNL sim cards**

‡3743. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that black marketing of BSNL sim cards is going on in several States and sim cards could not be provided to the subscribers as per their requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to check the black marketing of sim cards and also to provide sim cards

to the subscribers as per their requirements?

**Promotion of NIXI**

3744. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have promoted National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the functions of the exchange;

(c) whether NIXI has started functioning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made by NIXI to provide improve Internet Services in the country?

**Increase in call charges of MTNL**

3745. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2005, calls on MTNL network would be charged @Rs. 2/-per call with pulse rate of 120 sec. instead of Rs. 1.20/- with the Pulse rate of 60 seconds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the increase in call charges?

**Issue of inflated bills by MTNL**

3746. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of issuing of inflated bills by MTNL;

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‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to inquire into the matter and to refund the excess money charged to the consumers of MTNL; and

(d) whether a large number of MTNL subscribers have switched on to private telephone companies and if so, the number of subscribers that have left MTNL so far?

#### **Computerisation of Post Offices in Gujarat**

†3747. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices in the State of Gujarat in which computers had been installed during the last three years and the registered mails sent through them; and

(b) the total number of post offices proposed to be computerised in the States during the current financial year?

#### **Opening of Post Offices in Gujarat**

†3748. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices functioning at present in rural areas of Gujarat;

(b) the number of such villages where facility of post office is not available;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for providing the said facility in those villages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Illegal telephone exchanges in South India**

3749. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal telephone exchanges operating in South India with the connivance of private telecom players, have been found diverting international calls as local, causing huge revenue loss to Government;

(b) whether at the instance of telecom department CBI had conducted an elaborate investigation into this racket; and

(c) if so, a summary of the findings of the CBI?

#### **Improvement of Speed Post Service**

3750. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to revamp/modernise the postal services in the country by making it people friendly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to failure in efficiency of Postal Department's Speed Post Services, private courier agencies are gaining day-by-day; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, what steps are taken or proposed to be taken for the improvement of Speed Post Services and make it people friendly?

**Demand of WLL/Garuda and Dolphin Mobile phones**

3751. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that WLL/Garuda and Dolphin Mobile phones are not supplied to the consumers in time by the officers of MTNL/BSNL inspite of heavy demand from the people;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to delay in supply, many of the consumers are going to other private cellular companies; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken to speed up the supply?

**Infrastructure of BSNL/MTNL being utilised by private companies**

3752. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the private companies involved in the Mobile Cellular Phones Services with their investments and a number of subscribers they are holding as on February, 2005;

(b) in what manner they compare with the B.S.N.L. and M.T.N.L.; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the private companies are utilising the infrastructure

of the BSNL/MTNL for their services at the expense of the latter?

**Misuse and malpractices in IT sector**

3753. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the major categories of misuse and malpractice that are predominantly prevailing in the Information Technology Sector leading to substantial loss of revenue to Government;

(b) the number of such cases that have been detected in the last three years and outcome thereof;

(c) the major measures and devices envisaged and implemented to arrest such misuse and malpractice; and

(d) the steps Government would take to eliminate this malady once and for all within a short span of time?

**Setting up of rural telephony**

3754. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount disbursed for Universal Service Obligation Fund during the financial year 2003-04;

(b) the number of villages where telephone facility has been provided during the above period by agencies to which these funds were disbursed; and

(c) the target fixed for current financial year and average amount spent per village for setting up of rural telephony?

### **Maintaining of call details records**

3755. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Internet Telephony on Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) is causing concern among the Indian Security agencies, as such calls made to overseas parties, leave no trace of calls being made at all;

(b) whether several Internet Telephony Service Providers in Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Punjab are selling calling cards of different unregistered overseas companies;

(c) whether ITSP licencees maintain call details records, as a part of the licensing conditions;

(d) whether apart from security considerations, such clandestine operations by ITSPs cause severe revenue loss to the Centre; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to address this issue?

### **Formation of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra Committee**

3756. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider formation of a full-fledged Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra Committee on the lines of All India Haj Committee, to offer scope for more pilgrims from India keen to visit Kailash Mansarovar ;

(b) whether Government would ensure proper conservation and protection of the holy precincts of Kailash Mansarovar

through a pact with the Chinese Government on the lines of Pant-Mirza Pact of 1955 providing protection of non-Muslim shrines in Pakistan; and

(c) whether Government would also consider joint upgradation of road leading to Kailash Mansarovar in consultation with its Chinese counterpart?

### **Promotion of Hindi abroad**

†3757. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who were taught Hindi in Indian missions abroad during the last three years, year-wise and Mission-wise; and

(b) the efforts being made by Government to promote the use of Hindi abroad?

### **Visit of US Secretary of State to India**

3758. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT:  
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA  
SEKAR REDDY:  
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:  
SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Secretary of State visited India, recently;

(b) if so, the details of the issues figured in the talks held with her and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements were signed during the visit;

(d) if so, the details thereof, agreement-wise;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(e) whether the matter relating to the stoppage of supply of F-16 Fighter aircraft to Pakistan was also taken up;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;

(g) whether she has given any categorical assurance of US support for UN Security Council seat to India; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor and US stand on the issue?

#### **Prime Minister's Mauritius visit**

3759. SHRI LALIT SURI:  
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA  
SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited Mauritius, recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral and multilateral issues figured in his talks with Mauritius leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements were signed during the visit;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and the benefits to be accrued to India as a result thereof, agreement-wise; and

(e) in what manner the implementation thereof would be watched and ensured?

#### **Nuclear energy co-operation between India and USA**

3760. DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:  
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US Administration as well as the US Congress has decided to launch negotiations with India on facilitating

nuclear energy co-operation with India;

(b) if so, to what extent India has welcomed this move;

(c) whether US has also decided to make a concerted bid through competitive prices and superior technology for 126 Fighter aircraft contract that India is currently seeking offers for from major defence manufacturers in France, Russia, US and Sweden;

(d) if so, to what extent, India and US have finally decided to obtain nuclear energy from US and also aircraft deal; and

(e) whether India is satisfied with agreements reached?

#### **Liberal visa regime between India and Russia**

3761. DR. KARAN SINGH:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia has called for more liberal visa regime with India and has suggested an arrangement similar to what it has with France and Italy;

(b) whether this issue was discussed during the Russian Foreign Minister's visit to India in October, 2004;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Indo-Nepal discussion on mutual interest**

3762. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently, India and Nepal have discussed security-related issues of mutual interest;

(b) whether any final outcome was there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when the outcome is expected to be implemented?

**Hosting of conference on federalism based federal system by India**

†3763. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have offered to host the conference on federalism based federal system to be held in 2007-08;

(b) if so, the participating countries in the proposed conference; and

(c) whether participating countries have agreed upon or likely to be agreed regarding hosting of the same by India?

**Opening of Hussainiwala Indo-Pak border**

3764. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the matter with Pakistan to open the Hussainiwala Indo-Pak border in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Agreement with Myanmar**

3765. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government entered into an agreement with Myanmar to secure cooperation in fighting terrorism, organized crime, narcotics trafficking, etc.;

(b) whether such agreements has been entered into with many other countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Restoration of democracy in Bhutan**

†3766. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the king of Bhutan has indicated the restoration of democracy in his country;

(b) if so, how Government of India have taken his stand; and

(c) whether india is ready to help SAARC nations to help in restoration of democracy in their countries through SAARC?

**SAARC**

3767. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Pakistan and Afghanistan, recently;

(b) whether he discussed the future of SAARC, with the Pakistani Government;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether India is being accused of belittling the SAARC, how it looks at the present position of SAARC; and

(e) by when would the next SAARC conference be held?

#### **Atrocities against minorities in Bangladesh**

†3768. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a press communique issued by the 'Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Unity, Bangladesh' regarding atrocities being committed against the minorities particularly against Hindus living in Bangladesh;

(b) whether Government are aware of the recent attacks made on the houses and the places of worship of the minorities living there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for which Government have not registered their protest to the Government of Bangladesh in this regard?

#### **Pak President's New Delhi visit**

3769. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what issues were discussed during the recent Pak President's visit to New Delhi; and

(b) whether terrorism and PoK issues were discussed in the context of satellite

pictures of terrorist camps on the other side of the border; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

#### **Postponement of PM's America visit**

†3770. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that postponement of the US visit of Prime Minister in July, 2005 is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the reasons for postponement of the said tour?

#### **Convention on nuclear safety**

3771. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to ratify the convention on nuclear safety;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons prompted Government to ratify the convention on nuclear safety;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to sign on a peace treaty with Pakistan regarding use of nuclear weapons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Ties with Pakistan and Nepal**

3772. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have initiated a drive to strengthen the ties with the neighbouring countries especially Pakistan and Nepal;

(b) if so, the measures taken so far towards this objective; and

(c) the details of achievements made by Government in this direction?

**Legislation to prohibit America to sell F-16 to Pakistan**

3773. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pro-India lobby in the US including Democratic Senators, is moving to introduce a legislation in the US Congress to prohibit the sale of F-16s to Pakistan;

(b) whether a group of Democratic Senators has already urged the White House not to proceed with the sale of F-16s to Pakistan; and

(c) whether India has engaged any professional firm in US to conduct lobbying operations for Indian causes and interests?

**Indian cultural centres**

3774. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Indian cultural centres functioning abroad;

(b) the major activities of these centres;

(c) whether the activities of these centres are being assessed periodically; and

(d) if so, the details of recent assessment?

**Restrictions on UTL operations**

†3775. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have warned the Government of Nepal that the bilateral economic agreements would be affected adversely if the ban imposed on the Indian Telecom Company 'United Telecom Ltd.' is not withdrawn by it at an early date; and

(b) if so, the reactions of the Government of Nepal thereto?

**Pacts of Nepal with Pakistan and China**

3776. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Nepal proposes to have the pacts with Pakistan and China after the recent change of political situations in Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

**Social Security Scheme on pilot basis**

3777. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Social Security Scheme for unorganised workers has been launched in some Districts on pilot basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether the scheme is proposed to be extended to more Districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Inadequate medical facilities in ESI hospitals**

3778. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employees State Insurance Corporation has recently decided to set up a Committee to review the functioning of medical care under ESI Scheme;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee, its composition and the time by when the Committee is likely to present its report;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints/suggestions regarding inadequate medical facilities available in the ESI hospitals in various States particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

**Recommendations of Working Group on Minimum Wages**

3779. SHRI RAJU PARMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a large number of recommendations from the Working Group of Minimum Wages;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Working Group; and

(c) whether Government are aware that minimum wages recommended by the Working Group are not being paid by the State Governments and if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

**ESI dispensaries in Tamil Nadu**

3780. SHRI C. PERUMAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ESI dispensaries located in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the dispensaries are having obsolete and outdated equipments;

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to make them super specialty hospitals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Improvement in functioning of Labour Courts**

†3781. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether ten Labour Courts and three Tribunals in Delhi are in a pitiable condition and 20,000 cases are still pending in these Courts;

(b) whether the posts of Presiding Officers in most of these Courts and Tribunals are not being filled due to non-availability of Judges;

(c) whether unsatisfactory service conditions and facilities in these Courts have been the main reasons for capable Judicial

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



Officers not getting attracted towards these Courts; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken for bringing improvement in the functioning of the Labour Courts?

**Employment opportunities in Assam**

3782. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment exchanges functioning in Assam at present, District-wise;

(b) the number of persons registered thereunder with each exchange; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to create employment opportunities for unemployed youths in Assam?

**Medical facilities for beedi workers**

3783. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of medical facilities as provided by Government to beedi workers in the country;

(b) whether any effort had been made by Government to extend medical facilities to beedi workers who in large numbers work in their residences outside the beedi factories;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any special package of medical facilities is provided to beedi workers in the country, in view of their work being involved with tobacco which is very injurious to their health causing several lung problems;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Employment exchanges in the country**

3784. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment exchanges functioning at present in the country, State-wise/District-wise/location-wise;

(b) the details of the unemployed youths indicating their trade registered with each employment exchange during the last three years; and

(c) the number of unemployed youths benefited by these exchanges during this period?

**Child labourers**

3785. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of child labourers in the country, during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the schemes currently implemented to check the child labourers; and

(c) the funds released to States during the last five years under these schemes?

**Deposit of PF by tea estate owners**

†3786. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that owners of tea estates of Assam deduct money from monthly income of labourers for depositing the same in provident fund;

(b) if so, whether the amount deducted from provident fund of these labourers is deposited in the Government Accounts;

(c) if not, the action taken by Government therefor; and

(d) the amount of such provident fund which has not been deposited by tea estate owners in the Government Accounts?

**Installation of Tsunami Warning System**

3787. SHRI R.P. GOENKA : Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a time schedule of two and half years has been fixed for installation of the proposed 125 crore Tsunami Warning System to predict the under sea quakes and Tsunami in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, whether this time-frame has been reviewed afresh in view of the recent earthquake in Indonesia, when safety measures had to be taken in India to save people from the repeat Tsunami trauma in some coastal towns of the country; and

(c) if so, the revised schedule and the present status of the project?

**Abandoning to wives by NRIs**

3788. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large number of NRI husbands are abandoning their wives in India particularly in Punjab;

(b) the number of cases reported in this regard in Punjab during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what effective measures have been taken to provide necessary assistance to helpless girls?

**Overseas Indian Citizenship**

3789. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA :  
SHRI R.K. ANAND:  
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently announced Overseas Indian Citizenship (OIC) scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the names of the specified countries;

(c) the number of applications received so far under the schemes and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether Government have decided to put on hold the said scheme; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Core Group on Administrative Reforms**

3790. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the recommendations of the Core Group on Administrative Reforms; and
- (b) the response of the Government?

**Administrative Reforms Commission**

3791. DR. AKHILESH DAS:  
SHRI KARNENDU  
BHATTACHARJEE:  
SHRI C. PERUMAL:  
SHRI C. RAMA-  
CHANDRAIAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to appoint to set up the second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof including its purpose, tenure, terms of reference, etc;
- (c) by when the commission is likely to submit its report;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Commission is proposed to be set up under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 the purpose of which is altogether different; and
- (e) the date when the first ARC was set up and whether some of its major recommendations were implemented together with the details thereof?

**Enforcement of court orders**

†3792. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:  
SHRIMATI PREMA  
CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would give any direction to all the Ministries/Departments regarding enforcement of court orders;

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

**Age relaxation to OBC candidates**

3793. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the period of age relaxation given to OBC candidates for appearing in various competitive examinations conducted for Union Government jobs;
- (b) whether Government have received any requests for relaxing further the age limit for OBC candidates;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether the present age relaxation is sufficient to meet the requirements to OBC candidates in view of their social conditions that warrants more age relaxation for them;
- (e) if so, the details and the steps proposed to be taken thereon; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Ban on filling up of posts**

3794. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have stopped recruitment against the vacant

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

posts in Government Departments for the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Charge-sheeting of All India Services Officers by CBI**

3795. SHRI LALIT SURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases initiated by CBI against officers of the All India Services, whether in service or retired for possessing assets disproportionate to their known sources of income during the years 2000 to 2004 and so far during the 2005, service-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number out of them for which charge-sheets have been filed;

(c) the number of cases, year-wise, in which charge-sheets have not been filed within stipulated time after completion of investigations and reasons for delay; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to expedite these cases?

**Promotional policy for Central Government employees**

†3796. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy to deny promotion for the period till the cases of the officials of Central Government, in respect of whom the departmental enquiry and prosecutions accorded, are resolved and they are proved innocent, is equally applicable to all the employees;

(b) if so, whether the said policy is applicable on all the categories of employees;

(c) if not, the reasons for such discrimination; and

(d) the names of such Ministries where benefits alongwith promotion has been given to such officials and employees who are involved in corruption, misconduct and other serious cases?

**Exposure of corruption in Government Departments**

3797. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently informed the Supreme Court that the Central Vigilance Commission would protect those exposing corruption in Government Departments, till a legislation was enacted on the subject;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made by Government before the Bench of Supreme Court and whether Chief Vigilance Commissioner would be given autonomous independent powers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government are seriously contemplating to bring a Bill in this connection; and

(f) if so, by when?

**Scrapping of ACRs**

3798. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to scrap the system of Annual Confidential

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Reports as a basis for promotions and empanelment;

(b) the details of the new system proposed;

(c) to what extent Government would try to institute a new system for giving promotions to all officers;

(d) whether it is a fact that the marks given by training institutes would count for more than ACR gradings; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Joint ventures to train officials**

3799. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have got in touch with foreign universities to offer joint ventures to train officials who are already in service;

(b) if so, the names of foreign universities with which Government is in touch to train Indian bureaucrats;

(c) to what extent, it would help in making out officials more efficient and responsive to the needs of our people;

(d) whether Government propose to review such proposals; and

(e) the reasons for going in for help from foreign universities?

#### **Imbalance in regional development**

3800 SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that development activities in various regions are not even

and are resulting in regional imbalance; and

(b) if so, the details with allocation made for various developmental activities during the last five years, year-wise and region-wise?

#### **Indices of Orissa and other States**

3801. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner the present indices compare with the rest of Orissa and the State average;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to extend the Development Plan; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to include some more backward areas such as Padampur Block of Baragarh district and Phulbani district in Orissa?

#### **Restructuring of Delhi Transport Authorities**

3802. SHRI B.J. PANDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has asked the Delhi Transport Authorities to restructure their system to minimize the losses;

(b) the details of loss of the authority in 2004; and

(c) the action plan of the State Government to control the unabated loss?

#### **Per capita consumption expenditure**

†3803.DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the monthly per capita consumption expenditure in rural areas was Rs. 554 during the year of 2003 whereas it has been assessed to be Rs. 1022/- in urban areas of the country;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the 50 per cent population living in rural and urban areas is not capable to spend the said amount; and

(d) if so, the amount of expenditure on monthly consumption of these 50 per cent people living in rural and urban areas?

#### **Growth in agricultural production**

†3804. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural production has shown merely 1.5 per cent annual increase during the first three years of the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if not, the assessment of Government and the extent to which the actual growth rate of production is less than the fixed target;

(c) whether Government have considered the special steps to be taken to increase the growth rate of production in the remaining years of the plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Increase in unemployment**

†3805. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that percentage of unemployment was 8.87 during 2001-02 and this percentage has increased to 9.11 during 2004-2005;

(b) if not, Government's assessment in this regard;

(c) whether Government have found out the reasons for increase in unemployment; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Annual growth rate of GDP**

†3806. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of Gross Domestic Product during the Tenth Plan is estimated to be less than the target;

(b) if so, the estimate of annual growth rate;

(c) whether Government have considered any special steps to be taken to increase the annual growth rate during the remaining years of the plan; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Connectivity to world heritage sites**

3807. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tourism Ministry requested Planning Commission to provide funds to give connectivity to world heritage sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**People earning less than one dollar a day**

3808. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been a sharp decline in the number of people earning less than one dollar a day; and

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

**Reduction in assistance to States**

†3809. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission is going to effect massive cut in the financial assistance to be provided to the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the development of State and progress of schemes/projects would be affected thereby;

(d) whether the Planning Commission have conducted any study in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Bringing down of poverty ratio**

†3810. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several effective programmes are being implemented in the country to bring down the poverty ratio during the Tenth Five Year Plan by the year 2007; and

(b) if so, target set to bring down the poverty ratio during the Tenth Plan and the details thereof?

**Rethinking on Five Year Plan**

3811. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are rethinking on Five Year Plan and go for annual plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Amount for poverty alleviation**

†3812. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of the population living below poverty line is decreasing in the country;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the amount spent on the poverty alleviation programme during the last three years by Government, year-wise;

(c) the programmes being implemented at present; and

(d) the name of the States which requires maximum share in the total budget of poverty alleviation?

**Pending projects for Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh**

‡3813. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pre-sanctioned projects pending with the Planning Commission for financial assistance as on 31st March, 2005 for the States of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of said schemes;

(c) since when these projects are pending; and

(d) the provisions made for granting sanction to these schemes alongwith the details of the action taken in the year 2004-05?

**Ongoing central sector projects**

3814. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing central sector projects in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the funds allotted and released for the same during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the achievements and progress made by Government in this respect?

**Schemes run by Government**

‡3815. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 207 schemes are being run by Government in the country;

(b) if not, the actual number of the said schemes;

(c) the number of schemes out of the said schemes which are meant for development of rural areas and development of urban areas respectively; and

(d) the average amount spent annually during the last five years on these schemes in urban and rural areas?

**Study of biological warning system**

3816. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the five aboriginal tribes inhabiting the Andaman Nicobar Islands, the last missing link of the present day world with the earlier civilization, have emerged by and large unscathed from the recent Tsunami havoc, because of their age old biological warning signals like the cry of birds and behaviour of marine animals dating back to 20,000 or more years; and

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‡Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(b) if so, the steps that have since been taken and are being taken for study of such biological warning signals and their documentation?

#### **Science Park in Bangalore**

3817. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent any proposal for the release of Centre's share in the setting up of Science Park in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed Science Park;

(c) the Centre's share therein; and

(d) the present status of the above proposal?

#### **Science Advisory Committee**

3818. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Science Advisory Committee; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Bio-tech park in Tamil Nadu**

3819. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote Biotechnology in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any

proposal to set up Biotech Park in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds for research and development**

3820. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Bio-technology has been allocating funds for research and development to Universities, Colleges and Non-Governmental Organisations in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds and projects sanctioned by the Department for the purpose?

#### **Regional Science Centre at Dharwad**

3821. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has sought financial assistance for setting up a Regional Science Centre at Dharwad; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto?

#### **Earthquake resistant techniques in Delhi**

†3822. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent Delhi is safe so far as the earthquake is concerned;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government would provide low cost earthquake resistant technique for the buildings to be constructed in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Funds for scientific institutions**

3823. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a nodal Government agency in place which determines and disburses funds to different institutes, including Universities for scientific and basic research;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its composition and functions;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would consider the question of setting up such an agency which would oversee the funding of all projects of research of national importance?

#### **First aid for accidents on highways**

†3824. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ambulances along with the names of hospitals provided for extending first aid for the accidents occurring on Highways/Expressways and golden quadrilateral in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the loss of life and property during last three years?

#### **Improvement of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh**

3825. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

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

(a) the names of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh where works relating to widening, extension and repairs have been undertaken during the years 2003 and 2004;

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

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

#### **NHs in Andhra Pradesh**

3826. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by his Ministry during the past two years to develop the existing National Highways in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of the amount allocated for this purpose; and

(c) whether the same have been spent during the given period?

#### **National Highways in Orissa and Himachal Pradesh**

†3827. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:  
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

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

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) the total length of National Highways in Orissa and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the stretch of National Highways under construction out of the same alongwith the stretch where construction work have completed;

(c) the amount sanctioned for the development of National Highways alongwith the amount released for the same during the last five years;

(d) the number of such proposals of both the States pending with Government, so far; and

(e) the latest status thereof?

#### **Demand for more ports**

3828. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1056 given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th March, 2005 and to state:

(a) whether the industry has also requested for increasing the number of ports to avoid port congestion, etc.; and

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal?

#### **Investment in National Highways Development Programme**

3829. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to invest one lakh crore of rupees on National Highways Development Programmes;

(b) if so, the programmes included in this project; and

(c) the details of the project undertaken as on date?

#### **Four laning of National Highways in Rajasthan**

†3830. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been received from the State Government of Rajasthan for converting the National Highway No. 11 from Jaipur to Chomu and National Highway No. 2 from Jaipur to Chaksu and National Highway from Kishangarh to Byavar into four-lanes-road on the basis of traffic density; and

(b) whether there is any plan to approve these proposals?

#### **Monitoring of road safety in Andhra Pradesh**

3831. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the management structure of the National Highway Authority of India;

(b) whether there are specific geographical areas of responsibility for various Members of the NHAI;

(c) if not, in what manner does the NHAI respond to pleas and representations on road safety in distant State like Andhra Pradesh;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether any monitoring of the time and pace of response from NHAI to public representations is done by Government; and

(e) the extent of monitoring done by NHAI in this regard?

#### **Black-listing of contractors**

3832. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NHAI has black-listed any contractor in the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that NHAI had given contracts to some unqualified road contractors in the years 2003 and 2004;

(c) whether NHAI would review such contracts given under duress to some contractors;

(d) whether NHAI has reviewed the performance of all contractors; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **National Highway in Maharashtra**

†3833. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways in Maharashtra and the amount spent on maintenance of the same during the last five years;

(b) the number of proposals pending with Government for upgradation of the State Highways of Maharashtra to National Highways; and

(c) the programmes of Government with regard to "Golden quadrilateral roads" in Maharashtra?

#### **Roads in Bihar**

3834. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways, State Highways and other roads in Bihar;

(b) the roads in Bihar whose condition is poor;

(c) the action taken/being taken to improve the condition of roads in Bihar; and

(d) the total funds allocated for the purpose?

#### **Boosting of maritime sector**

3835. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 10 year action plan has been drawn up to boost the maritime sector which, reportedly, includes development of national sea waterways and setting up of a Directorate of Ports to supervise the development of ports; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan and its present status?

#### **Expansion of Chennai Port**

3836. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that Chennai Port is likely to get second terminal in the next ten months;

(b) the details of this expansion plan for Chennai Port;

(c) the cargo expectations in the next five years for Chennai Port;

(d) whether it is a fact that other ports are not getting adequate funds for their expansion plans; and

(e) the steps proposed to develop other ports on the East Coast?

#### **Setting up of ship building hubs**

3837. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up two ship building hubs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had asked the Hindustan Shipyard and Cochin Shipyard to prepare plans to expand their current facilities and to set up green field building facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Land for Sethu Samudram Project**

3838. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to implement the Sethu Samudram Project some of the land in Railways custody which has not

been in use for the last several years had to be transferred to the nodal agency of the project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the nodal agency for the said project has made any request to the Railways to transfer the said land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Rest houses along the National Highways**

3839. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rest houses that have been constructed along National Highways in the country during the last three years;

(b) the location of rest houses already constructed/proposed to be constructed in the country State-wise; and

(c) the guidelines issued by Government to use these rest houses by the public?

#### **Roads under BOT scheme in Tamil Nadu**

3840. SHRI R. SHUNMUG-ASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads that would be constructed under the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) scheme in Tamil Nadu by his Ministry; and

(b) the time frame for the completion of the North-South corridor section in Tamil Nadu?

### **Road proposals for Uttar Pradesh**

†3841. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of proposals concerning several schemes related to transport sent by the Uttar Pradesh Government are pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken so far or proposed to be taken by Government on the proposed projects?

### **Fencing on roads to check accidents**

†3842. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide fencing to check the problem of stray animals and avert accidents on Delhi-Chandigarh Delhi-Agra and Delhi-Jaipur Highways;

(b) if so, whether similar kind of fencing is proposed for other Highways as well; and

(c) if so, the details of the financial resources for the coming years?

### **Container terminal in Chennai**

3843. 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

had given in principle approval for the development of a second container terminal in Chennai Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said project would be implemented on Built-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the proposed terminal capacity would be sealable to six lakh TEVs (Twenty-foot equivalent units) from the second year of operation?

### **Condition of NH-31**

†3844. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that condition of National Highways No. 31 between Pasraha and Narayanpur remain dilapidated due to which the water of Kosi and Ganga get clogged between National Highways No. 31 and railway line causing soil to become wet and get spread and deteriorating the road everyday;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to improve the condition of the said Highways soon;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Ship acquisition programme**

3845. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shipping Corporation of India has drawn up a \$500 million ship acquisition programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the shipyards, the world over, are not able to accept fresh orders for new vessels till 2007 and the Shipping Corporation of India may have to wait for its expansion plan till then or explore other ways, amongst others, to pick up second-hand vessels or opt for chartering them; and

(d) if so, the details of the fresh strategy drawn up to augment the fleet capacity?

#### **Opening of Motor driving schools**

†3846. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open Government Driving Schools with a view to strengthen the road safety in the country and to develop the safe driving habit;

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

(c) the details of Government's strategy in this regard and the effective steps being taken by Government to implement this policy in the public interest?

#### **Ship building hubs in Kochi**

3847. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up two shipbuilding hubs in Kochi contiguous with the special economic zone proposed on land owned by Cochin Port Trust;

(b) if so, the details including the fund to be earmarked and the step taken to full fill the proposal;

(c) whether there is any proposal for additional infrastructure creation in Cochin Shipyard for the creation of a green field international class shipyard; and

(d) if so, the details including the steps taken for finalizing the proposal and the fund allotted or to be allotted for the above purpose?

#### **Capital Subsidy Scheme for SSIs**

3848. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced a Capital Subsidy Scheme for small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the category of industries which are eligible under the scheme; and

(d) whether it is proposed to increase the quantum of subsidy?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Setting up of representative office of SICL**

3849. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI SANTOSH  
BAGRODIA:  
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA  
MURTHY:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Small Industries Corporation Limited had set-up representative office abroad without proper assessment of the business it is expected to generate resulting into in fructuous expenditure of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, whether the matter was inquired into to fix responsibility of the people responsible for setting up the officers abroad and whether any responsibility has been fixed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the business generated out of the efforts of the representative offices?

**Promotion of SSIs in Maharashtra and M.P.**

†3850. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has demanded special grants from Government for the benefits of Small Scale Industries in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any schemes are being run at present by Government for the promotion of Small Scale Industries in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Amount allocated to SSI**

3851. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated to Small Scale Industries as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount to be allocated for the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the steps that are being taken by Government to increase the total allocation to this sector as this can go a long way in solving the unemployment problem?

**Launching of ASTROSAT Project**

3852. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved ASTROSAT project last year;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of this project; and

(c) by when ASTROSAT is going to be launched?

**Development of weather stations by ISRO**

3853. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO has developed Weather Stations in collaboration with private entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the details thereof with name of collaborator and terms of collaboration;

(c) whether the Weather Stations are functional;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) the level of accuracy of the data furnished by these stations?

#### **Status of the manned mission to moon**

3854. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have plans to send a manned mission to moon within a few years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project?

#### **Project running behind schedule**

3855. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many projects including mega projects are running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date;

(c) the reasons for delay in completion of these projects;

(d) the total cost escalation of these projects due to time overrun; and

(e) the steps taken to complete these projects expeditiously?

#### **Works under MPLAD Scheme**

3856. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that under MPLAD scheme, about 6250 works have been executed by district authorities without sanction by concerned Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, in what manner this has happened and who is responsible for this procedural lapse on the part of district administrations;

(c) the amount involved therein and the action that is being taken to fix responsibility; and

(d) the steps Government have initiated to ensure avoid recurrence of such lapses in future?

#### **Mismanagement of MPLADs funds**

3857. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the MPLAD funds are being mismanaged;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether there is no proper allocating system in place for this scheme?

#### **Method for estimating GDP**

3858. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) in accordance with recommendations made by the National Statistical

Commission (NSC) whether Government are undertaking any revision of the method currently adopted by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) for estimating GDP;

(b) if so, by when are the first series of figures of GDP estimated by the new method are likely to be released; and

(c) whether Government are anticipating any major differences in GDP estimates after the new series is adopted?

#### **Infrastructure development for Commonwealth games in Delhi**

3859. SHRI ANAND SHARMA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps initiated by Government to meet the infrastructure requirements for the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi;

(b) the names of the agencies responsible for transports, construction of games village and stadiums; and

(c) the estimated cost of infrastructure and provisions for the games?

#### **Construction of Swimming pool at Shivmoga**

3860. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for construction of swimming pool at Nehru Stadium at Shivmoga is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the final decision would be taken?

#### **Commonwealth Games**

3861. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Commonwealth games are being held in New Delhi in 2010;

(b) if so, the steps that are being taken for the preparation of the games and whether any Core Committee have been constituted by Government for making necessary arrangements;

(c) whether Government are planning to associate international experts in the field of sports for preparation of infrastructure for Commonwealth games; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Construction of Indoor Stadium at Dharwad**

3862. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for construction of Indoor Stadium at Dharwad is pending with Government;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the final decision would be taken in this regard?

#### **Development Projects for Commonwealth Games**

3863. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the infrastructure development projects that are being implemented in and

around Delhi for hosting the Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) the likely expenditure for all these projects;

(c) whether the views of organisations like Indian Olympic Association, Sports Authority of India, etc., have been obtained; and

(d) the status thereof project-wise?

**Schools adopted by SAI in Tamil Nadu**

3864. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools adopted by Sports Authority of India in the State of Tamil Nadu, location-wise;

(b) the disciplines in which the training is provided to the children;

(c) whether the number of these schools are very few considering the huge size of

the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

**Recommendations of the National Conference on Youth Affairs & Sports**

3865. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Conference on Youth Affairs and Sports held in February, 2005 have recommended number of suggestions for the youth and sports related activities in India;

(b) if so, the detail of deliberations and recommendations made by the Conference; and

(c) what action Government propose to take on various recommendations made by the Conference?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 21st April, 2005*  
*Vaisakha 1, 1927 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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