

## RAJYA SABHA

### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Monday, the July 28, 2003/Sravana 6, 1925 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Commerce and Industry; Health and Family Welfare; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Information and Broadcasting; Law and Justice; Parliamentary Affairs; Shipping; Social Justice and Empowerment; Tribal Affairs; Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation)**

**Total number of questions—155**

#### **Mangalore as SEZ**

717. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include Mangalore as Special Economic Zone for the speedy economic and industrial development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Ban on outsourcing services from India**

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

(a) whether any steps have been taken to persuade the U.S. Administration against the reported attempts by States like New Jersey and others in the U.S. to legislate a ban on outsourcing certain services from India, which is likely to adversely affect the IT and IT enabled services (ITES) industries in the country because of their sheer dependence on the U.S. market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, especially outcome of the recent meetings with the

U.S. trade representatives in Washington, where this subject matter was also reported to have come up for discussion?

#### **Co-ordination between India and China for Doha Development Round of WTO**

719. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China would engage themselves in a co-ordinated manner on the issues of common interest in the ongoing negotiations of the Doha Development Round of WTO;

(b) if so, the issues/areas identified for this purpose; and

(c) how the 'Anti-dumping' issue is proposed to be solved?

#### **Expansion of list of duty free imports by U.S.A.**

720. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. President has expanded the list of imports from developing countries that can enter U.S. duty free;

(b) whether a major hurdle has cropped up in the way of India's Rs. 1,000 crore carpet exports to U.S. as this key product has been deleted from the list of the items eligible for duty free import into U.S.;

(c) whether a number of countries have gained by this decision;

(d) if so, to what extent it would be a loss to India;

(e) whether this issue has been taken up with the U.S. Government; and

(f) if so, what is their reaction?

#### **Fresh tariff concessions to China**

721. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has offered fresh tariff concessions to China on a number of items as part of the strategy to boost the trade ties;

(b) if so, whether after the agreement reached with China, Government have decided to have 10 year excise relief for new units in Sikkim and new units engaged in 13 specified industrial activities and commencing production on or after December 23, 2002 in Sikkim would be entitled to a 10 year excise exemption; and

(c) if so, to what extent this would give a boost to the trade between the two countries?

#### **Trade between Japan and India**

722. DR. A.R. KIDWAI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether trade between Japan and India is at a very low stage at present;

(b) if so, whether it has been suggested that the current complementary structure of trade should shift to more value-added and diversified products;

(c) whether 200 Japanese firms are operating in India and are prepared to increase their investments provided the operating environment improves;

(d) if so, to what extent India has considered these suggestions and has modified the rules for more Japanese investments in the country;

(e) whether Japan has welcomed this move; and

(f) if so, to what extent it would be further improved?

#### **Visit of Pakistani business delegation**

723. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:  
SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether Pakistani businessmen visited India in June-July, 2003 and two-day meeting between Indian and Pakistani businessmen was inaugurated by the External Affairs Minister;

(b) whether India and Pakistan have decided to open up trade channels;

(c) whether India and Pakistan have entered into tea accord and Pakistan has decided to import 10-15 million kg. of tea from India;

(d) if so, whether Pakistani traders urged the Prime Minister to relax visa norms for businessmen and submitted joint memorandum for normalisation of trade relations; and

(e) if so, to what extent this would help improving trade relations between the two countries?

### **Concessions to EOUs**

724. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to extend hundred per cent concessions to the Export Oriented Units (EOUs), which are available to the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) at present;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to get exemptions from the various States for State level taxes in favour of these EOUs/SEZs?

speech at the enlarged dialogue of the G-8 called for phase-out of the trade distorting agricultural subsidies and removal of barriers to agricultural exports, while ensuring the livelihood and security of billions of farmers in developing countries;

(b) if so, what were the specific barriers in agricultural exports sought to be removed by the Prime Minister; and

(c) what was the response of the G-8 countries thereto?

### **Lifting of ban on Indian items by Pakistan**

725. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:  
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

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

(a) whether as a confidence building measure, Pakistan lately cleared atleast 73 items that it had banned for imports from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the items, if any, banned by India for imports from Pakistan, which have been cleared for imports from Pakistan in reciprocation thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken to promote mutual trade between the two countries?

### **Improvement of infrastructure in Rajasthan**

727. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

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

(a) the details of the funds, as proposed by the State Government of Rajasthan and the amount allocated for improvement of the infrastructure in industrial areas of the State for the year 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03;

(b) the amount of funds released to the State till date;

(c) the details of the progress made in various projects to improve infrastructure in industrial areas of the State; and

(d) the details of the steps Government are willing to take to monitor improvement of these industrial areas in the State?

### **Barriers in agricultural exports**

726. DR. AKHILESH DAS:  
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his visit to St. Petersburg, in his maiden

**Rubber production**

\*728. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) the details of rubber production in the country for the last five years year-wise;

(b) whether Government have recently lifted all restrictions for rubber import;

(c) if so, the details of rubber import in the past three years;

(d) whether Government have felt the need to allocate special funds to help improve production in order to revive the rubber industry;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Incentives to rose producers in Rajasthan**

729. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that Pushkar in Rajasthan produces the best export quality roses in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to extend any special incentives to rose producers in the State to further develop its flower sector for export purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Exports to various countries**

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

(a) the details of exports made by India during the year 2002-03;

(b) the percentage of exports to various countries during the above period, country-wise; and

(c) the percentage of rate of Indian export according to the latest report of WTO?

**GATS-Visas for developing countries**

731. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether EU countries, U.S., U.K. and other developed countries have introduced a system of GATS (General Agreement on Trade Services)-Visas for accommodating the needs and demands of the developing countries for export of services under the WTO regime;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, and Government's assessment about the extent to which Indian demands have been met thereby;

(c) whether developing countries have been trying to form a coalition during the recent (current) round of WTO negotiations; and

(d) if so, the success achieved in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**International Leather Complex in  
Andhra Pradesh**

732. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sought sanction for setting up an International Leather Complex; and

(b) if so, the action taken to give a fillip to the leather industry to provide employment generation?

**DGFT directive to exporters and  
importers**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that from now onwards it would be mandatory for exporters and importers to submit the details of their business to the DGFT on annual basis; and

(b) if so, the objective of the DGFT behind issuing such a directive as the small traders would be put to difficulty as a result thereof?

**China eyeing Indian diamond cutting  
industry**

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

(a) whether India accounts for over 70 per cent of the global diamond cutting and polishing industry;

(b) whether it is a fact that China is eyeing that industry in view of cheap labour cost in China; and

(c) the action proposed to review labour policies, infrastructure bottlenecks, etc. threatening domestic diamond industry with labour problem with threat to relocate?

**Lichee export**

†735. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Lichee exported from India and the extent of foreign exchange earned thereby;

(b) whether Lichee is also exported from Uttaranchal;

(c) if so, whether the State Government is being provided with the assistance to increase the production of exportable Lichee in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme**

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

(a) the objectives of the Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme (DEPB);

(b) the amount of custom duty neutralized after introduction of DEPB during the last year and till date in the current year;

(c) whether norms pertaining to import of raw material through DEPB have been relaxed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Indo-UK trade meet**

737. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the Indo-UK trade meet; and

(b) whether proposals of the previous round have been implemented?

### **Opening up of farm sector by developing countries**

738. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many developing countries including India are opening up the farm sector under pressure from the WTO and IMF;

(b) if so, its implications on the farm sector;

(c) the steps being taken to protect the local farm sector from the unprincipled competition; and

(d) whether Government are coming up with any new farm policy and if so, the details thereof?

### **Import of natural rubber**

739. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ban on import of natural rubber has been removed and the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has permitted import of natural rubber under the advance licence scheme;

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

(c) whether Government are aware that this step would have adverse impact on

the rubber growers in the country especially in Kerala?

### **Liberalisation of norms for foreign technology agreements**

740. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have liberalised the norms with regard to foreign technology agreements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of agreements signed during the last three years; and

(d) the royalty paid against providing technological know-how to these countries?

### **Incentives for Special Economic Zones**

741. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given more incentives to the Special Economic Zones and as a result the Export Processing Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits derived from these incentives?

### **Free trade agreement between India and Thailand**

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

(a) whether India and Thailand are negotiating for concluding free trade agreement;

(b) the existing position of balance of trade between the two countries; and

(c) the items which India imports from Thailand and items which India exports?

#### **Rubber import**

\*743. SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decisions to allow rubber import;

(b) if so, the reasons which prompted Government to arrive at such a decision;

(c) whether Government consider to rectify the technical defects crept in the orders of rubber import to safeguard the interest of the rubber cultivators; and

(d) whether Government consider to review the decision?

#### **Sanctions by developed countries**

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

(a) whether various sanctions are being imposed on the businessmen, experts and skilled workers of India by the developed countries in the era of globalisation;

(b) whether India is also considering to impose such sanctions on the line of developed countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Demand of tobacco growers**

745. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tobacco growers are demanding to dispense with the auction system and allow traders to buy tobacco from farmers directly; and

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

#### **Trade with Pakistan**

746. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) India's trade with Pakistan during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the steps Government are contemplating to improve the trade relations with Pakistan by introducing direct flights between the two countries, exporting cement, cotton and steel to Pakistan;

(c) whether any meeting between Indo-Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry were held recently to improve the trade relations; and

(d) if so, the details of the outcome thereof?

#### **Golden Jubilee of CGHS**

747. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to celebrate the golden jubilee of the CGHS as it entered 50th year of its existence on the 1st June, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the allocation of funds for the purpose; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for providing better medical facilities to the beneficiaries, particularly the pensioners served by the dispensaries in the outlying areas of Delhi and outside Delhi?

#### **DNB degree**

†748. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medical students seeking DNB degree for post-graduation after their MBBS will now have to go through the process of objectively structural clinical examination in the country for the first time after their final written exam which will not only be different from traditional practice but also be purposeful and transparent as well in addition to forensic and ENT, ophthalmology, paediatrics, gynaecology, orthopaedic have also been included in the same;

(b) if so, the outline of this new arrangement; and

(c) to what extent students and patients would be benefited as a result thereof?

#### **Restriction on cigarette smoking**

749. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of increasing the taxes and banning advertising of cigarettes the number of smokers in the country has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the domestic demand of cigarettes has increased by about five per cent during the last year; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to restrict the manufacturers of cigarette to produce limited quantity and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Free treatment for poor in private hospitals**

†750. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Apollo Hospital and other private hospitals were allotted land on concessional rates on the condition that they would provide free treatment to the poor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that so far these hospitals have not provided free treatment to the poor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Apollo Hospital has expressed its inability to provide free treatment to the poor;

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(e) whether Government would formulate uniform policy for all private hospitals?

#### **Leprosy patients in Orissa**

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

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of leprosy patients in Orissa is on the rise as per a survey report;

(b) whether the State has 7.12 leprosy patients per ten thousand population as against the national average of 4.2;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



(c) whether a leprosy eradication programme was launched in 1983 with the Central and outside assistance; and

(d) if so, the progress achieved so far to control leprosy cases?

#### **Deaths during abortion and sterilisation operations**

752. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether death of over 5,000 women across the country due to septic abortions and ill-performed sterilisation operations amounts to flagrant violation of human rights in reproductive health;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of India has reported as many as 16 deaths during sterilisation operations between 1979 and 1999; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to meet this threat?

#### **Deaths due to TB**

753. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:  
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tuberculosis is considered world-wide as a completely curable disease yet in the national hospitals like the Rajan Babu TB Hospital there are 20 per cent deaths due to TB;

(b) if so, whether Government have set up an inquiry into the causes of this high rate of deaths; and

(c) if so, the outcome of such study indicating the rate of TB fatalities in each hospital in Delhi?

#### **Family Planning Programmes in Rajasthan**

754. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds asked for by the State Government of Rajasthan and the amount allocated for different Family Planning Programmes for the year 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03;

(b) the amount of funds released to the State, till date;

(c) the details of the progress made in Family Planning Programmes in the State; and

(d) the details of the steps Government propose to take to monitor implementation of these programmes in the State?

#### **Baby swapping in hospitals**

755. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:  
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:  
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the stand Government have taken on the recent baby swapping cases in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government has asked for the Centre's intervention on any of the reported cases of baby swapping;

(c) if so, whether any investigation was carried by Government on the involvement of the hospital staff;

(d) if not, whether Government have any plan on intervening the enquiry proceedings for the same; and

(e) the steps Government propose to ensure that no such case is repeated any where else in the country?

#### **Expenditure on Public Health**

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

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 1,03,000 crores is being spent annually on public health safety in the country;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that a wide gap exists in expenditure in different regions of the country; and

(d) the details of the States having minimum per-capita expenditure on public health safety alongwith the States having maximum per-capita expenditure?

#### **Disposal of used syringes**

757. SHRI AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 60 per cent of the disposable syringes used in Delhi hospitals like Safderjung Hospital return to the market at several places like Jawalपुरी, Sultanपुरी, Mayapuri, Uttam Nagar, R.K. Puram, etc. in the Capital;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the hospitals have been flouting rules for disposal of used syringes; and

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

#### **Population growth in Madhya Pradesh**

758. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:  
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase/decrease in the population during the years 1991 and 2001, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been a negative growth so far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned; and

(c) if so, the reasons for fall in population in the year 2001 as compared to 1991 for Madhya Pradesh?

#### **Indiscipline in AIIMS**

†759. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:  
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some senior doctors of All India Institute of Medical Sciences have been suspended due to charges of indiscipline; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the specific charges against them?

#### **Medical colleges**

760. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges in the country, State-wise;

(b) the strength of students in these medical colleges;

(c) the new medical colleges being proposed to be set up during the next five years; State-wise and year-wise;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) whether medical colleges have experienced and adequate staff; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and how this shortage would be met?

#### **TB patients**

761. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people in the country affected by TB;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check/eradicate this disease;

(c) the causes for the spread of this disease; and

(d) the number of human lives lost because of TB annually during the last three years, State-wise?

#### **Hypertension among children**

762. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alarmingly high rate of hypertension the children in Delhi have;

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

(c) the preventive and curative steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

#### **Condom vending machines**

763. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Condom Vending Machines (CVMs) are lying unused in Orissa due to short supply of condoms;

(b) whether these CVMs have been installed under aid from the National Aids Control Organisation and the World Bank;

(c) whether these CVMs are engineered to dispense only Sangam brand of condoms which are in short supply; and

(d) the measures taken to make these CVMs adaptable to dispensing other makes of condoms also?

#### **Sale of fake medicines**

764. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent raid by the Karnataka Lok Ayukta revealed that a large number of fake medicines are being sold in the country;

(b) if so, whether any inquiries have been conducted to ascertain intensity of the problem;

(c) whether Government have taken any measures to safeguard interest of the public; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **SARS cases**

765. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of SARS reported in the country alongwith the number of casualties;

(b) whether it is fact that many of the reported cases did not conform to the known symptoms of this deadly infection;

(c) if so, whether the existing laboratory facilities are inadequate for carrying out such tests; and

(d) if not, the details of the reason for differences in the WHO and the

Government's announcements on the SARS cases in the country?

#### **Disposal of waste in hospitals**

766. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 40,000 used syringes are generated by 85 hospitals in the capital every day;

(b) whether only 40 per cent of these are destroyed or incinerated and recycled syringes are used on almost two-third patients in the country; and

(c) if so, the reasons for hospitals and nursing homes having not installed incinerators and made them operational and not managing the waste properly?

#### **Control of fatal diseases**

†767. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have controlled the growing fatal and dangerous diseases; and

(b) the details of the steps Government have taken to prevent spreading of the dangerous diseases like AIDS, cancer, hepatitis, etc. in the inhabitants of rural areas and unauthorized colonies?

#### **Illegible printing of names of medicines**

†768. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the names on the allopathic and other medicines being manufactured by Government as well as private Ltd.

companies are written in very small font which are illegible for patients;

(b) whether the names of the medicines manufactured in the country are not written in Hindi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the necessary steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that names of the medicines are written in the bold letter as well as in Hindi?

#### **Shortage of beds and medicines in hospitals**

769. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of beds and medicines in the various State run hospitals;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for improving the condition of the State run hospitals in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

#### **Funds allocated for hospitals in Maharashtra**

†770. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by Government to Maharashtra for development of district hospitals during the year 2002-2003; and

(b) the funds likely to be granted for the development of each of the district hospitals?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Sale of banned medicines**

†771. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that banned medicines are being sold in the country, even banned injection oxytocin is being used in rural areas to exploit more milk from the animals;

(b) whether Government propose to take stringent action to stop the sale of banned medicines and use of banned injections; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Implementation of health sector reforms**

772. SHRI C. RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has observed in the Tenth Plan document that the contents and quality of the health sector reforms are sub-optimal and the pace of implementation is slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware of the mismatch between the personnel and the infrastructure in the system;

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

(e) the manpower availability and requirement in the institutions providing primary healthcare; and

(f) the steps being contemplated to bridge the gap?

**Review of AIDS control programme**

773. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently found gaps in implementation of the programme to control AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a new three pronged strategy has been announced by Government to control AIDS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the role of NGOs in controlling AIDS in the country?

**Equipments in hospitals**

774. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the poor maintenance of machines in the hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed by Government in this regard?

**Health schemes in J and K**

775. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the centrally sponsored health schemes in Jammu and Kashmir during the last five years;

(b) the details of the achievements made;

(c) the details of the funds released; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) the funds utilized in the State during the said period?

#### **Demand for physiotherapy**

†776. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that demand for physiotherapy is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government have created and filled up the posts of physiotherapists in all the Government hospitals;

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

(d) the steps being taken by Government to regularise the profession of physiotherapy?

#### **Maternal mortality**

777. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the country for every one lac pregnant females, 407 fall victim to maternal mortality, while worldwide one lac women die annually and another six lac become disabled;

(b) if so, whether Government funded organisations, especially in villages have competent doctors or skilled persons, surgical facilities and life-saving drugs for handling emergency cases; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to take active help of NGOs in this regard?

#### **Fixation of prices of medicines**

778. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines/yardsticks prescribed for fixation of prices of medicines;

(b) whether it is a fact that the drug manufacturing companies are charging exorbitant prices for pills and drugs;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take against such companies; and

(d) the steps proposed to provide medicines at reasonable price?

#### **Health care services for ex-servicemen**

779. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adequate health care services are not available for ex-servicemen;

(b) if so, whether Government have a proposal to enhance the health care facility for them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Licence for Chinese drugs**

780. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after granting Registration Certificates to the Chinese suppliers the DCI office is not granting Form 10 import licence for the products like rifampicin;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many applications are pending for more than two to three months, affecting the trade to a great extent; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) the reason for this kind of confusion prevailing in the department?

**Birth/mortality/infant mortality rate**

781. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the birth/death/infant mortality rate in Madhya Pradesh, U.P. and Jharkhand in the last decade;

(b) its comparison *vis-a-vis* the States like Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the birth rate as well as infant mortality rate?

**Sight problems among children**

782. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that half of Delhi's school kids are unaware of sight problems;

(b) whether it is a fact that 25 per cent of the world's visually challenged people are in India; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to change this scenario?

**Utilization of funds for RCH**

783. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated for Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) remain underutilized, thereby jeopardizing the maternal and child health among the disadvantaged sections;

(b) the utilization of RCH funds during the last three years, year-wise and the current financial year till June 2003 and their percentages to the allocation; and

(c) whether any separate fund has been allocated for the underserved groups identified by the National Population Policy 2003?

**Affairs of AIIMS mortuary**

784. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the incident that happened at AIIMS mortuary on 27th May where a male body was handed over to the relatives instead of woman;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the relatives of the deceased woman were not allowed to identify the body, for not paying money to the attendants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken, if any, against the guilty staff?

**Non-cooperation in Pulse Polio Programme**

785. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1163 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd March 2003 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that minority community, particularly in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh, has not been co-operating with the workers deputed for Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, for giving polio drops to the children and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to ensure that all the children upto the age of five are covered by the Programme in the State so as to eradicate this disease?

**Patients without access to doctors**

786.SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank, in the report under 'Poverty Net', has described poverty, amongst others, as no capacity to attend a physician at the time of necessity;

(b) if so, the number of such patients; and

(c) the steps Government propose to initiate to cover all poor people?

**Availability of doctors**

787.SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of M.B.B.S. graduates required for the present population;

(b) the number of medical graduates available; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortfall?

**Unemployed doctors**

788.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of highly qualified Allopathic doctors are unemployed; and

(b) the number of medical practitioners being trained in Unani, Ayurvedic and Siddha system?

**Quackery menace**

789.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seized with the implications of widespread quackery in the country; and

(b) if so, what measures Government intend to take against the quacks?

**Epidemics in Kerala**

790.SHRI N.K. PREMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that epidemics such as dengue fever, weill's disease and viral fever have claimed about 120 lives in Kerala within one month;

(b) whether the State Government has requested for Central assistance to check unprecedented spread of such diseases; and

(c) whether Government are considering any Central assistance to the State for intensifying the epidemic control programmes?

**Meeting of Health Ministers on population growth**

†791. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Health Ministers of all the States was held last year to check the growing population of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to check population growth at national level;

(c) whether Government have given any financial assistance to all the State Governments to check population; and

(d) if so, the amount given to the States including Bihar during the year 2001-2002?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Family Welfare Programme in Rajasthan**

792. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Family Welfare Programme undertaken at village level in Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred on such programme; and

(c) the progress made in bringing down the birth rate?

**Sale of spurious drugs**

793. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that fake and spurious drugs are ineffective against diseases and are a threat to health of human beings;

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to crack down on the manufacturers of spurious drugs;

(c) whether the High Court of Delhi has recently asked a report on circulation of spurious drugs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the report sent to the Delhi High Court?

**Statutory dues of public sector employees**

794. SHRI GAYA SINGH:  
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

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

(a) whether the Group of Ministers headed by the Planning Commission

Deputy Chairman Shri K.C. Pant, to decide on the question of clearing the statutory dues of public sector employees, has taken any decision on the issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest position of the statutory dues on account of wages, salaries and other dues owed by public sector companies?

**Losses in PSUs**

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many industrial institutions of public sector are continuously running in losses since many years;

(b) if so, the numbers thereof along-with their losses by March, 2003;

(c) the number of institutions whose losses have exceeded the investment made therein by March, 2003; and

(d) the policy framed by Government with regard to such institutions?

**Government industries**

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that various industries are being run by Government, if so, their numbers as in March, 2001, March, 2002 and March, 2003;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(b) the investment made by Government during the aforesaid period, industry-wise; and

(c) the percentage of annual profit earned by Government from these industries at the end of each year during the aforesaid period out of the total investment made?

#### **Status of Cement Corporation of India**

797. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to sell off the sick units of Cement Corporation of India (CCI); and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government to bifurcate its profit earning Bokajan Unit and float it as a separate public sector company?

#### **Public Sector Industries**

798. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the public sector industries in the country;

(b) the total amount invested in them by Government as on 31st March, 2003;

(c) the details of dividend paid by public sector units during 2001-02 and 2002-03; and

(d) the total amount spent by Government as subsidies to PSUs under the administered price mechanism?

#### **Supply of gas turbines**

799. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to place orders for supply of gas turbines with the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Hyderabad and that this item should not be imported from foreign countries, as BHEL is capable to supply the same; and

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

#### **Observation of C&AG on PSUs**

800. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has criticised 97 public sector units whose losses in 2000-01 have increased by 33.8 per cent from the losses in 1999-2000; and

(b) the steps being taken to streamline working of the loss making units to make them viable?

#### **Outstanding dues of DD**

†801. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding dues to be paid by DD to different Ministries and since when;

(b) the action taken by Doordarshan so far for payment of such amount; and

(c) the profits earned by Doordarshan during the last three years, year-wise?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Uplinking policy for news channels**

802. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet has reviewed the uplinking policy for news channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also initiated the process for the second phase of FM Radio licences; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Scrapping of the Official Secrets Act**

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

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

(a) whether Indian Journalists Union has urged the Centre to scrap the outdated Official Secrets Act and amend the Working Journalists Act to curb the contract system in the field and ensure free flow of information for democracy to flourish;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the suggestions;

(c) the reasons for not accepting the suggestions; and

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

**Media Partners Asia report on CAS**

†804. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the study report undertaken by the Hongkong based Media Partners Asia;

(b) if so, whether the said organisation has published study report after assessing the situation prevailing in that country after implementing the Conditional Access System there; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

**Schemes for CBFC**

805. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of allocating funds during the year 2002-03 on account of schemes for the Central Board of Film Certification, Government could not sanction even a single scheme; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Policy for entertainment sector**

806. SHRI R.S.GAVAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring an entertainment policy to facilitate the growth of entertainment sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government also propose to give renewed thrust by enhancing the programme content on Doordarshan and Akashvani; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Introduction of CAS**

807. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reason for introducing the CAS for more than 44 million TV viewers, is the pressure exerted by the set top box importer lobby;

(b) the reasons for Government succumbing to the pressure of the channel operators and cable operators and postponing the CAS launch to 1st September, 2003;

(c) unlike the fora of cable operators and channel operators with whom Government are engaging in a dialogue, which forum represents interests of 44 million TV viewers all over the country; and

(d) whether Government have involved the Consumer (Viewers) Forum in its negotiations?

#### **Centre of IFFI**

808. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to make Goa as permanent Centre of the International Film Festivals in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Goa has got necessary infrastructure to be a permanent place for

holding mega event of the International Film Festivals; and

(d) the facilities proposed to be provided there by Government?

#### **Ban on telecast of Fashion T.V.**

†809. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Fashion T.V. and Trend T.V. are being telecast on T.V. channels without any check;

(b) whether Government are taking any action to put a ban on such channels or taking any action against such channels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **CAS for consumers**

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

(a) whether the CAS would be beneficial for the consumers;

(b) whether the CAS would be more cheaper in comparison to the cable system;

(c) whether it would not be possible to watch programmes of various channels without the set-top-boxes; and

(d) whether the people who cannot afford set-top-boxes would be deprived of watching various channels?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Code of conduct on advertisements**

†811. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that media is constantly neglecting the code of conduct regarding advertisements; and

(b) if so, the number of advertisers against whom action has been taken during the last three years for neglecting the said code?

**Purchasing of set top boxes for CAS**

812. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to protect interests of the poor viewers who cannot afford set-top-boxes while enforcing CAS wherein Cable TV viewers will have to purchase such-boxes;

(b) whether such viewers can watch free to air channels through routine antenna at their roof tops; and

(c) if not, what action Government have taken to ensure that poor viewers can watch the free channels without depending on the Cable TV Operators?

**AIR Station, Pithoragarh**

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

(a) whether the AIR Station of Pithoragarh (Uttaranchal) has become operational;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

**Manufacturing of Set Top Box**

814. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Set Top Box (STB) is indigenously manufactured in the country;

(b) if not, whether the STBs would be imported for which the import duty has been reduced from 46 per cent to 5 per cent;

(c) whether Government are aware that the imported digital STBs (MPEG-2) which Government are going to provide are technologically an outdated one;

(d) if so, whether the people would be interested rather forced to buy these outdated STBs with the change to the fibre optic cables; and

(e) whether Government are in hurry to force Conditional Access System in the cable network?

**DTT technology to motorists**

815. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DD is working towards making DTT technology available to the motorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any consultations have been made in this regard with the people concerned for developing TVs to suit this purpose; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Setting up of a Task Force for radio  
broadcasters**

816. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA  
RAO: Will the Minister of  
INFORMATION AND BROAD-  
CASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Private  
broadcasters have requested Government  
for setting up of a Task Force to address  
the issues faced by the Radio Broadcasters;  
and

(b) if so, the action taken by  
Government in this regard?

**Introduction of CAS**

817. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will  
the Minister of INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are not  
pushing CAS in haste;

(b) if not, how this is going to benefit  
the viewers as well as small cable TV  
operators;

(c) whether the Multi System Operators  
(MSO) are likely to benefit most; and

(d) if so, the objective behind the  
introduction of CAS?

**24-hour DD news channel**

818. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION  
AND BROADCASTING be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of  
the new 24 hour news channels DD could  
not improve its overall coverage in getting  
'breaking' news;

(b) whether Government thought of

improving on these lines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Upgradation of AIR and DD network  
in NER**

819. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION  
AND BROADCASTING be pleased to  
state:

(a) the details of the special package  
for upgradation of AIR and DD network  
in the NER indicating the outlay, item-wise  
and year-wise, the amount actually utilized  
and the achievements made during the  
Ninth Plan and proposed during the  
remaining period of the Tenth Plan;

(b) the implementation status of the  
declaration made to create a separate  
administrative zone for NER; and

(c) the present status and target set for  
enhancement of the height of TV  
transmission tower at Dibrugarh?

**Telugu TV serials**

820. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY :  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION  
AND BROADCASTING be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether any information has been  
received on the depiction of witchcraft,  
blackmailing and various illegal activities  
as normal in some of the Telugu serials;

(b) if not, whether Government propose  
to arrange for a survey of such trends, if  
any, in the Telugu TV serials; and

(c) the action taken so far to curb this  
practice?

### **Implementation of CAS in metropolitan cities**

821. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to implement CAS in the metropolitan cities with effect from the 14th July, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how general public is likely to be benefited by this;

(c) the steps taken to ensure that viewers are not exploited by the Cable Operators; and

(d) the expected Government earnings by this system?

### **Division Bench of Supreme Court**

†822. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether setting up of the Supreme Court's division bench is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any proposal for setting up a division bench in Mumbai is also under Government's consideration?

### **Family Courts**

†823. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States have not yet started the Family Courts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when, the system of Family Court would be implemented by such States?

### **Amendment in Article 12**

824. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commission on the Working of the Constitution recommended for changes in Article 12 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made with regard to Article 12 of the Constitution; and

(c) the action Government have taken thereon?

### **Recommendations of NJPC**

825. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the National Judicial Pay Commission regarding hike in salaries of the Judges and increasing the number of Judges in various States;

(b) if so, the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved on account of implementation of the above recommendations;

(c) whether some State Governments have expressed financial and constitutional difficulties in implementing these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the budgetary provisions made by the Centre, States and Union Territories to implement these recommendations?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**High Court bench in Sambalpur**

826. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up a High Court bench in Sambalpur;

(b) whether such a decision would facilitate disposal of the pending cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**New guidelines for CPC**

†827. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of the new guidelines for the Civil Procedure Code has resulted in fast disposal of civil cases on a large scale;

(b) if so, the number of cases disposed off in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra; and

(c) whether Government are considering to bring an amendment in view of the increasing number of pending criminal cases in the courts due to witnesses turning hostile resulting in acquittals in most of the cases?

**Improvement in Judicial system**

†828. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to make comprehensive improvement in the judicial system of the country;

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have received several suggestions in the past for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the suggestions received and the action taken by Government so far to implement these suggestions?

**Corruption charges against Judicial Officers**

829. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Judicial Officers facing charges of misconduct and corruption as on the 1st January, 2003; and

(b) the number of Judicial Officers dismissed/removed for misconduct and corruption during the last five years?

**Foreign Lawyers to practice in Indian Courts**

830. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite strong resistance from the Bar Council of India (BCI) Government have expressed their willingness to the World Trade Organisation to allow foreign lawyers to practice in Indian Courts on a reciprocal basis under the General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS);

(b) if so, what were the main objections of the Bar Council of India; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Development of inland waterways**

831. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals from the States for development of inland waterways after modification in Centrally sponsored scheme last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof specially the proposals received from Maharashtra; and

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

**Outbreak of SARS in far eastern region**

832. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian shipping companies suffered losses as a result of outbreak of SARS in far eastern countries;

(b) if so, whether these shipping companies had to curtail their voyages to ports in far eastern region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Container terminals at Mumbai**

833. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether two container terminals at Mumbai are being run by JNPT and a privately owned P&O Management, respectively;

(b) whether the JNPT proposes to offer a third container terminal to the private operators and has called for bids;

(c) whether P&O Management has been

disqualified by JNPT for bidding for the new terminal on the grounds of constituting a monopoly; and

(d) whether the P&O terminal at Mumbai is considered more efficient and economically operative by the shipping industry?

**Survey for development of inland waterways**

834. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out any survey for developing inland waterways through rivers and canals in the country;

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

(c) whether Government are aware that there is a tremendous potential and scope for the development of inland water transport system within the country both for passengers and cargo; and

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

**Utilisation of funds in the port sector**

835. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a heavy shortfall in utilisation of the funds in the port sector during the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to ensure better implementation, control and monitoring of the projects to ensure that the funds do not lapse?

**Loans to handicapped persons**

836. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA  
RAO:  
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR  
REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government have assured the Vikalangula Cooperative Corporation of Andhra Pradesh that it would provide loans towards self-employment to the handicapped persons in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its terms and conditions; and

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be operational and the funds released for the purpose?

**Rights of disabled persons**

837. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Human Rights Commission has called for a comprehensive and integral convention to protect and promote rights of the people with disabilities;

(b) if so, the concrete efforts made by Government in this regard;

(c) the schemes prepared for the disabled in the country; and

(d) to what extent these schemes are being implemented?

**National policy for involvement of voluntary sector**

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

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

(a) whether Government have decided to formulate a national policy to involve the voluntary sector in development efforts;

(b) if so, whether the first meeting of the re-constituted joint machinery for collaborative relationship between Government and the voluntary organisations decided that a draft policy would be prepared and circulated among its members; and

(c) if so, by when the national policy to strengthen voluntary sector would be announced?

**Benefits of reservation system**

†839. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether any assessment has been made by Government with regard to the benefits arising out of the reservation system to the suppressed class suffering from the problem of social justice;

(b) if so, the percentage of people who have so far been benefited from the reservation system; and

(c) the number of people who have been able to live above poverty line?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Loan by NMDFC**

840. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation since its inception;

(b) the breakup of the loans sanctioned by the above said corporation, State-wise; and

(c) whether a study has been made to find out minorities especially Muslims who have been benefited as a result thereof?

**Inclusion of castes in the list of SC/ST and OBCs**

841. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from the State Governments during the last three years for inclusion of certain castes in the list of SC/ST and OBCs;

(b) whether Government have accepted those proposals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Schools for physically handicapped in Andhra Pradesh**

842. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government run or aided residential and day schools for physically challenged ones in Andhra Pradesh with details thereof,

district-wise;

(b) the type of vocational training being imparted in these schools;

(c) whether Government funds were released for these institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise?

**Employment for disabled persons**

843. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any orders to various Ministries/ Departmental agencies to give priority in employment to the disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken by Government in Jammu and Kashmir as compared to the other States?

**Scheduled Caste status to carpenters**

844. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M.Ps from Himachal Pradesh as well as the Legislative Assembly of the State have requested a number of times to remove discrepancies between the carpenters (Badhai) and ironsmiths (Lohar) living in the new areas of Himachal Pradesh and have also been requesting to declare carpenter community as scheduled caste like ironsmiths;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest position in this regard?

**Funds for schemes for Scheduled Castes**

845. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to Orissa for various schemes meant for the Scheduled Castes during the last three years and the amount utilised till today; and

(b) the reasons for non-utilization of the funds allocated for the purpose?

**Commissions on problems of economically backward classes and disabled persons**

846. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made that Government should set up three separate commissions to look after the problems regarding reservations for the economically backward classes, the problems of disabled people and the hardships faced by the nomadic tribes; and

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

**Assets of Wakf Board**

†847. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the estates of the Wakf Board which have been registered together with the amount of grants sanctioned by Government for their development during the past few years; and

(b) whether Government are taking any

action to evict illegal occupants after conducting a thorough survey of the Wakf estates, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Inclusion of more castes in STs list**

848. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reschedule Koch Rajbonshi as Tribals;

(b) if so, by when the bill for amending the Constitution to reschedule the ethnic group would be brought in the Parliament;

(c) whether Government also propose to reschedule Tai Ahoms, Moran, Mattak, Chutia and tea garden population as tribals as per the public demand and as per the suggestion of the Joint Parliamentary Committee; and

(d) the communities which have fulfilled all the criteria for enlistment as ST in Assam?

**Welfare scheme for tribal population**

849. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the tribal population in the country;

(b) the schemes launched for the welfare of the tribal population to improve their living conditions alongwith the financial allocation so far;

(c) whether these schemes are successful in improving their living conditions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Non-utilization of tribal funds**

850. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated for the scholarships to the tribal students, vocational training schools, tribal student hostels and other tribal plan assistance are not utilised; and

(b) if so, the States which have diverted the tribal funds for other work?

**Funds to Himachal Pradesh**

851. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated to Himachal Pradesh during this year under various schemes for construction of roads, bridges and culverts in hilly and far flung areas;

(b) whether additional funds are proposed to be allocated in view of its historical background; and

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

**Development of small and medium towns**

†852. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started any scheme for the all round development of the small and medium towns in the country;

(b) if so, the cities in Bihar selected under this scheme; and

(c) the amount provided by Government to the State for the development of cities?

**Regularisation of illegal construction in DDA flats**

853. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to regularise illegal construction in the DDA flats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether owners, after regularisation, who have not undertaken any alterations, are now free to do so without taking any permission from DDA; and

(d) whether such acts would not disturb the planned development enshrined in the Master Plan?

**Sambalpur Water Project**

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

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Sambalpur town of Orissa has been facing water scarcity in summer and the Sambalpur Water Project has been inaugurated to provide relief to the people of the town;

(b) whether Government have provided any financial assistance to the cashstrapped State for the project;

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

(d) the similar centrally aided water projects proposed to be taken up in other towns of the State to tide over water scarcity?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Tender mafia in DDA**

855. DR. ABRAR AHMED:  
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

- (a) whether Government are aware that a tender mafia is active in DDA;
- (b) the number of private contractors on the approved list of DDA at present; and
- (c) the number of contracts awarded to the same contractor for more than once with contract money involved, during the last two years, year-wise?

**Civic amenities at Rajghat**

†856. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to provide several civic amenities at Rajghat keeping in view the lack of such amenities there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amenities being proposed to be provided by Government?

**Violation of building bye-laws in LBZ**

857. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has received several complaints about building violations in the Luytens' Bunglow Zone (LBZ) committed by the Ministers and MP's residing there; and

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

**Regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi**

†858. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the decision taken by Government with regard to the regularisation of unauthorised colonies constructed in Delhi upto 31st March, 1998;
- (b) whether Government have formulated any outlines with regard to regularisation of such unauthorised colonies; and
- (c) if so, by when the same is proposed to be implemented?

**CAG report on Narela Housing Scheme**

859. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has in his report pointed out serious lapses including violation of its bye-laws in connection with the allotment of residential units in the Narela Housing Scheme resulting in huge losses and blockage of funds amounting to Rs. 36.08 crores;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the persons responsible for the huge Government losses have been identified; and
- (d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against them?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Urban commuting system for Chennai**

860. SHRI G.K. VASAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an urban commuting system on the lines of Delhi Metro has been proposed for Chennai city;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State Government's response thereto?

**Malfunctioning of lifts and elevators**

861. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing incidence of malfunctioning of the lifts/elevators in public buildings, especially in hospitals, where fatal accidents have occurred due to negligence in maintenance;

(b) if so, how many such accidents happened in public places in Delhi during the last two years and whether any study has been conducted to find out the causes; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures being adopted to eliminate lifts getting struck in the hospitals endangering lives of the patients?

**Water scarcity in Karnataka**

862. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangalore and other cities in Karnataka are facing severe water scarcity due to prevailing

drought situation in the State;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far to provide required water for the people in the cities of the State;

(c) whether any Central assistance has been provided in that direction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Change in use of shops**

863. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Government have decided a new policy for allowing change of use of shops from 'Restricted' to 'General';

(b) if so, whether this policy would apply to even those cases which were pending on the date of new policy and in which demand letters as per old policy had been issued;

(c) whether demand letters as per new policy have been issued to all the applicants whose applications were pending on date;

(d) the reasons for delay in issuing demand letters; and

(e) by when demand letters would be issued as per the new policy?

**Poverty Alleviation Schemes**

864. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes launched by Government to remove poverty among the urban population;

(b) the amount earmarked for this purpose to each State during the last three years;

(c) whether those schemes have yielded good results so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Slum population in NCR**

865. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of slum dwellers in the National Capital Region (NCR);

(b) whether Government have a proposal to allot flats/dwelling units to the slum dwellers in Delhi and other parts of NCR; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

#### **Progress of IDSMT Scheme in MP**

†866. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of implementation of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Scheme in Madhya Pradesh and other parts of the country is not satisfactory;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to amend the guidelines in this regard; and

(c) the number of towns and small cities of Madhya Pradesh included in this scheme?

#### **Service Associations**

867. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued permitting allotment of office accommodation to recognised Service Associations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any licence fee, etc. is to be charged or accommodation is allotted rent-free; and

(d) the basis and method of calculation of licence fee, if any, in such cases?

#### **Funds for construction of flyovers and roads**

868. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Urban Development Fund for Delhi is sanctioned to the State Government for construction of flyovers and roads;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some amount of the above fund is being utilised for development of tourist spots;

(c) if so, the reasons for such diversion;

(d) whether Government would compensate the State Government accordingly for facilitating the permissible activities;

(e) if so, the time by when the amount would be released; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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**Allotment of office accommodation to**  
 †Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Study of municipal finance in small and medium towns**

869. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the study conducted by the Delhi based N.G.O. Participatory Research in Asia on the Municipal Finance in the small and medium towns in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to undertake suitable steps to enhance the financial structure of the local self bodies as recommended by the study;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Lease hold deeds of DDA flats**

870. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1223 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd March, 2003 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DDA officers

are required to sign, on behalf of the President of India, the lease deeds when executed;

(b) if so, why DDA is not keeping a track of the cases where lease deeds have not been executed;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of old files, where lease deeds have not been executed, have been misplaced by the staff to harass and exploit the allottees; and

(d) if so, the number thereof and the action taken to retrieve/re-construct the files and to execute the deeds?

**Access to safe drinking water**

871. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the survey report of The Energy and Resources Institute which reveals that today nearly 40 per cent of India's urban population has no access to safe drinking water; and

(b) if so, why the official figure and the above data differ so largely?

NEW DELHI;  
*The 22nd July, 2003*  
*Asadha 31, 1925 (Saka)*

YOGENDRA NARAIN,  
*Secretary-General.*

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