

# Issues for Parliamentarians

To facilitate informed discussions among Indian Parliamentarians on key economic policy issues

25 years  
CUTS International

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## Good Economics is Good Politics



Parliamentarians' Forum on Economic Policy Issues (PAR-FORE)

## Vague & Dodgy Responses: Whither to Go from Here?

### INTRODUCTION

Questions raised in the Parliament serve a very important process of democracy, whereby the people are able to know what the government is doing and what it intends to do. Notwithstanding the cash-for-questions scandal (which has surfaced in India as well as the UK), most of the questions are raised by parliamentarians genuinely to discharge their duty, as representatives of the people.

Questions bring to the notice of the Ministers many abuses, which otherwise would have gone unnoticed. Sometimes, questions may lead to the appointment of a commission, a court of enquiry or even legislation when matters raised are grave enough to agitate the public mind and are of wide public importance.

Many a times, questions are raised by parliamentarians pursuant to their knowledge about issues either from newspaper reports or from well-intentioned members of the public. At times, MPs raise questions of their own volition. Alas, often the way these questions are responded to by the Minister concerned, appear to be lackadaisical and/or incomplete, thus negating the very purpose and ethos of the system.

This Issue Note is the latest one in the series being generated by CUTS to assist parliamentarians in discharging their solemn duty to the nation. In the present context, this Issue Note assumes a greater significance, in particular, with the Right to Information Act coming into effect, whose main purpose is to promote greater transparency.

### BACKGROUND

In the first hour of every sitting of both the Houses of Parliament called the Question Hour, members of the parliament (MPs) are free to ask any question to the Ministers on the policy and administration of their respective ministries.

Answers may be sought as oral (starred questions) or written (unstarred questions) or short notice questions relating to a matter of urgent public importance and can be asked at a shorter notice than the other two. Like a starred question it is answered orally followed by supplementary questions. The short notice question is taken up after Question Hour.

The government is put on trial during the Question Hour and every Minister whose turn it is to answer questions has to stand up and answer for his or his administrations' acts of omission and commission. Through the Question Hour, the government is able to quickly feel the pulse of the nation and adapt its policies and actions accordingly. It is through questions in Parliament that the government remains in touch with the people in as much as members are enabled thereby to ventilate the grievances of the public in matters concerning the administration. Questions enable Ministries to gauge the popular reaction to their policy and administration.

The importance of the question and answer sessions of the Parliament lies in the fact that they serve to act as checks on the day to day working of various ministries, even though the answers given to most of the questions are less than

satisfactory. And, this is despite the fact that officers in various ministries and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) spend hours pouring over answers to them.<sup>1</sup>

The answers follow a standardised pattern of providing a list of legislations passed by the Parliament, that too without any reference to the execution, implementation or amendments to them, even if the question is asking about the policy, rather than the legislation.

In terms of rules and procedure relating to questions in the Rajya Sabha, answers have to be precise and accurate. The information given through the answers has a high presumption of authenticity and wrong or inaccurate answers can be construed as an attempt to mislead the House, leading to raising of questions of privilege. If it is later found that the information supplied *bona fide* is inaccurate or incorrect, the Minister has to make a statement in the House correcting the previous answer in case it is a starred question or lay a statement on the Table of the House in the case it is an unstarred question.

#### Box 1: Breach of Privilege

Answers to questions have to be precise and accurate. The information given through the answers has a high presumption of authenticity and wrong or inaccurate answers can be construed as an attempt to mislead the House, leading to raising of questions of privilege.

Source: Parliament website – Rajya Sabha Questions and Answers – Introduction.

#### HOW ISSUES GET FUDGED

Discrepancy might lie on either side, that is, in the question framed or in the answers, but mostly the latter. Sometimes, the question's nature and inflexion changes after editing. This is often because it is a custom to start questions with 'whether'. But, at times, following this deep-rooted tradition changes the meaning completely, from that of the original statement. For example, the statement (See Table 5) 'most regulatory laws have provisions for funds (for consumer advocacy), but this has never been used' changes to 'whether most regulatory laws have provisions for funds, but this has never been used'.

Thus, the norm followed to start a question with 'whether' results in getting a completely different answer of: 'No funds have been created', followed by a list of regulatory laws, instead of a descriptive classification of as to *why* no funds were created or utilised under the regulatory laws. Further question as to what steps are likely to be taken, is then disposed off by a standard and easy answer: 'does not arise'.

Every ministry specialises in the tasks it handles. Thus, when a query is made, the specialisation, which the ministry possesses is borne in mind. But, often, the answers given to questions raised to specific ministries lack the expected expertise and proficiency.

Where Ministers feel that they cannot supply complete and accurate information at the moment, they can generally ask for time in respect of that portion of the question and assure the House to supply it as soon as it is available. Such assurances are closely monitored by the Committee on Government Assurances in case of a question in the Rajya Sabha.

In this backdrop, a question posed to the Minister of Health about sub-standard drugs is quite revealing. When asked whether sub-standard drugs are being imported by pharmaceutical suppliers in the country, the Minister of Health is not expected to answer a plain 'No, sir', especially when in various parts of the country citizens are campaigning to check sales of spurious drugs. However, in response to the same question raised on a previous date, the Ministry gave out an elaborate response than what it did later (See Table 3). Perhaps, different *babus* were dealing with the two questions and a lack of coherence and co-ordination led to different versions of responses to the same question posed to the same ministry.

Furthermore, during the same time period, the ministry itself was proposing a bill for death penalty to spurious drug manufacturers. Thus, it did recognise the problem on the basis of genuine reports.

Many a times, extracting reasons for the occurrence of a particular event, in the form of an answer to a question, is quite difficult as well. In such a situation, often, all sorts of answers (irrelevant to the question) are provided to circumvent the answer.

In response to a question as to the reason why only a specific company was allowed to sell Bt Cotton seeds in India, the concerned minister instead described how the seeds reduce the usage of pesticides. The example very well illustrates how the actual answer is thwarted by an evasive answer.

In some instances, answers seem to be taken from the source point, without any modifications, to suit the question

1 "Dodgy Answers", Business Line, December 1, 2005.

asked. The following case is worth considering. In an unstarred question (See Table 4) about the extent to which Indian spice industry was likely to be benefited by the recently concluded World Spice Congress, 2006 (at Chennai), the two line answer satisfied itself by stating that 'the Congress was an ideal forum for interaction and gives an opportunity for delegates to meet' - a description, which could be easily located on any advertisement or brochure of the said global event.

No doubt, on several occasions, answers to questions raised have been given with supporting annexures and statistics and, as a matter of fact, the trend to give elaborate answers seems to be improving, compared to the past. Nonetheless, such answers proliferate mostly where quantitative questions are asked, which do not require much analysis.

A question seeking answer in the form of quantity or amount, such as 'how much money was spent' or 'how many judges would be appointed', is always easier to answer, instead of questions which require in-depth analytical answers such as 'how will the government ensure development needs of the country' or 'whether the objectives of such and such programme have been achieved'. Mostly, such questions generate nothing more than a 'Yes, Sir' or a 'No, Sir' response or by an evasive or irrelevant answer to circumvent the issue raised.

In another interesting instance (See Table 1), response to a question on how the government would ensure that capacity building of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) meets the developmental needs of the country, a mere proposition was relayed to the house, which stated that, as the programme was conducted under the supervision of the Central Government and the CCI, the implementation would be for the benefit of the country. Mere supervision, of course, is no panacea and

in response to the query put forward, one would expect an answer that describes policy steps and/or strategies the government intends to adopt, rather than the above delivered proposition.

The quality of answers given, sometimes, also depends on the ministry. For instance, in the random samples collected for the purposes of developing this Note, it was found that all answers by the Ministry of Communications and IT were well drafted and complete, with all figures/data and research reports, if any (See Table 6). But, this does not go for other ministries. In fact, most ministries tend to abide by the traditions and/or practices (as described earlier), thus failing to respond to the actual questions.

In contrast to the above, a cursory look across the world would reveal several stimulating instances of quality responses to questions raised in parliaments of different countries. In New Zealand, the Education Review Office (See Table 9) not only knew the quantity of the reams of paper it used, compared to the previous years, but was also in a position to answer as to why its use had increased in the past year. Moreover, it provided percentage calculations, stating that the use had been about 78 percent in the new Education Review released by them, while the rest was used to make duplicate copies of the previous papers.

Many other parliaments, like in Scotland, (See Table 10) provide information of the exact place from where the data can be collected, if they are unable to provide it themselves or the question does not fall within the scope of their ministry. Even in India, few ministries do exercise the practice referred to above. (See Table 6 and 7)

### Box 2:

A comparison across 59 countries on the transparency of the national budget based on parameters like 'dissemination of information', 'availability of information for analysis of budget policies and practices' and the 'content and timeliness of budget documents' shows that India ranks at the 17th position and is labeled as 'provides some information'.

Country	% Score	Information Provided
UK	89	Extensive
SAfrica	85	Extensive
US	81	Extensive
Brazil	73	Significant
S Korea	73	Significant
India	52	Some
Pakistan	51	Some
Russia	47	Some
Argentina	39	Minimal
Egypt	18	Scant

Compiled by: ET 17.01.2007  
Source: IBP & CBPP's open budget index

### KEY ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

- ◆ Are the MPs making optimum use of the provisions of breach of privilege in response to answers that are either wrong, or more importantly, inaccurate?
- ◆ What appears more apt: the Right to Information or the Right to Correct & Complete Information?
- ◆ Is there a need to deliberate the formulation of a possible framework law that could regulate and/or monitor the quality of the responses to questions raised in the parliament?
- ◆ Is there a need to realise that merely asking questions is not the end of the job and that getting right information is equally crucial and important?

## Appendix

### Random List of Questions Raised in Parliament

#### I. Select Random Questions raised in Parliament (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha): Answers Given & Answers Expected – An Analysis

<b>Table-1</b>		
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answers Given</b>	<b>What should have been stated</b>
<p>Unstarred Q.No. 2910 (RS) - 20.12.2005 Shri Santosh Bagrodia &amp; Shri K.B. Krishna Murthy</p> <p>Will the Minister of Company Affairs be pleased to state: -</p> <p>(a) whether Government has engaged outside agencies for building capacity of the Competition Commission of India; and</p> <p>(b) if so, how will it ensure that the capacity building programme adequately reflects the development needs of the country rather than importing certain types of skills and approaches?</p>	<p>Minister of Company Affairs Shri Prem Chand Gupta</p> <p>(a) Yes, Sir</p> <p>(b) The capacity building programme of the CCI is being implemented under the supervision of the Central Government and the CCI, which will ensure that development needs of the country are taken care of.</p>	<p>(a) Inclusion of names and, if possible, brief description of the outside agencies and the targeted beneficiaries.</p> <p>(b) A brief on which development needs of the country would be taken care of and <i>how</i> would capacity building be ensured, including the description of the policy initiatives and the proposed measures to be taken.</p>

<b>Table-2</b>		
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answers Given</b>	<b>What should have been stated</b>
<p>Starred Q. No. 182 (RS) - 06.12.2005 Shri Santosh Bagrodia &amp; Harish Rawat</p> <p>Will the Minister of Company Affairs be pleased to state: -</p> <p>(a) whether Government considers promoting competition a serious policy issue as envisaged in the National Common Minimum Programme and other statements made from time to time by Government; and</p> <p>(b) what policy initiatives Government have taken to ensure competition in the market place?</p>	<p>Minister of Company Affairs Shri Prem Chand Gupta</p> <p>(a) Yes, Sir.</p> <p>(b) Government has taken several measures to address competition issues in the market place, including: -</p> <p>i. <i>Legislation that recognises the imperative of regulating competition, in the form of the Competition Act, 2002 was enacted following recommendations of the High level Committee on Competition Policy and Law set up under the Chairmanship of Shri SVS Raghavan.</i></p> <p>ii. <i>An institutional structure to regulate competition was set up in the form of Competition Commission of India (CCI). However, certain provisions of the act were challenged before the Supreme Court in 2003 as a result of which CCI could not be made fully functional. The Apex Court has since delivered its judgement on the matter. Appropriate amendments to the Competition Act are under examination of Government to address the issues arising from the legal challenge and to facilitate the full functioning of the Commission.</i></p> <p>iii. <i>Capacity building has been initiated to enable proper functioning of the Commission once it is fully constituted.</i></p>	<p>(a) Substantiation of the answer with few facts that would prove that the Government actually considers promoting competition as a serious policy issue.</p> <p>(b) The question was about <i>policy</i> initiatives, instead of legislative provisions, hence the Government's generic policy, which underlies all legislation, should have been described.</p>

Table-3

Question	Answers Given	What should have been stated
<p>Starred Q. No. 1151 (LS) - 30.11.2005 Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria</p> <p>Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state –</p> <p>(a) Whether sub-standard medicines are being imported by the drug suppliers in the country;</p> <p>(b) if so, the details thereof;</p> <p>(c) the action taken by the government in this regard;</p> <p>(d) whether the Government has started registration of foreign companies which are into importing drugs in order to check the inflow of sub-standard medicines into the country;</p> <p>(e) if so, whether a number of foreign companies have been registered without any inspection of the premises as laid down in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act; and</p> <p>(f) If so, the concrete steps taken by the Government in this regard?</p>	<p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Smt. Panabaka Lakshmi</p> <p>(a) – (d): No Sir, adequate provisions have been laid down under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules to ensure that sub-standard drugs are not imported into the country. The registration of overseas manufacturers and of each drug grant of import licence in Form 10 and checking of every import consignment by the port officers are done properly.</p> <p>(e) - (f): Registration requirements for drugs were introduced in April 2003. Inspection of overseas manufacturing sites is not a mandatory criteria for registration of import of drugs. Presently, such imported drugs, which have been in use in the country for considerable period, and are duly approved, have been registered, provided all formalities prescribed in Schedule D(I) and D(II) of the Drugs &amp; Cosmetics Rules are complied with. The applicants are required to submit regulatory status of the drug, free sale certificate and GMP certificate in WHO format or certificate of pharmaceutical product (COPP), issued by the regulatory authority of the country of origin and free sale approval, issued by the regulatory authorities of other major countries.</p>	<p>(a) Sub-standard drugs are being imported in the country. In the year 2005 itself, two movements were launched in Kerala and Punjab, separately, in order to fight the menace of spurious drugs.</p> <p><i>The same minister Smt. Panabaka Lakshmi, in an answer to an unstarred question (no. 4138) on 20.04.2005 about seven months ago, endorsed this as well, stating that "Being a clandestine activity, it is difficult to assess the actual quantum of spurious drugs. However, as per the information available from the State Drug Controllers, 38824, 43138 and 40862 drugs samples were tested during the period 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 out of which 96, 129 and 118 samples, respectively, were found spurious which is 0.33 percent, 0.29 percent and 0.288 percent of the samples reported spurious".</i></p> <p>(c) The above-mentioned question (unstarred question no. 4138, on 20.04.2005) has the details of the steps taken by the Government which are quite appreciable and could have been mentioned here as well, although again they focus on legislation, rather than implementation.</p> <p>(f) It is an ambiguous answer and does not clearly state what the rules are. The answer should have provided clear legal guidelines that the Government is following and substantiated it with the statistics it has on the number of foreign companies, etc.</p>

Table-4

Question	Answers Given	What should have been stated
<p>Unstarred Q. No. 2578 (LS) - 14.03.2006 Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai Patel</p> <p>Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state –</p> <p>(a) whether the Eighth World Spices Congress, 2006 was recently held in Chennai;</p> <p>(b) if so, the details thereof along with the officials who participated in the said Congress;</p>	<p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Shri Jairam Ramesh</p> <p>(a) - (d): Yes, Sir. The Eighth World Spice Congress 2006 was held in Chennai during 27 to 29 January, 2006. The Congress was attended by 105 overseas delegates from 28 countries and 234 delegates from India. 22 official delegates attended the Congress. The agenda discussed</p>	<p>(e) The answer does not address the extent to which Indian industry is likely to be benefited by the said Congress. It simply mentions what the World Spice Congress is, rather than giving a specific answer as to its implication. Secondly, the 2006 Congress specially focused on 'Food Safety in Spices', which does</p>

Question	Answers Given	What should have been stated
<p>(c) the agenda discussed in the Congress;</p> <p>(d) the extent to which Indian Spices industry is likely to be benefited by the said Congress?</p>	<p>in the Congress was 'Food safety in spices-challenges and opportunities' and Spices, Crops and Markets. The World Spice Congress is an ideal forum for interaction between importers and exporters. It offers an opportunity to the Indian spice trade to showcase its process technology, quality, and food safety compliance system. It also provides an opportunity to the foreign delegates to visit Indian spice farms and processing units and get the first hand information about production and processing in India.</p>	<p>find a mention in the answer, but which sheds no light on <i>increasing safety standards as non-tariff barriers affecting exports</i>.</p> <p>Moreover, if the Ministry is unable to provide all details of a question, it might provide the source point from where more information could be obtained. In this case, for instance, they could have given a reference of the website: <a href="http://www.worldspicecongress.com">www.worldspicecongress.com</a></p>

Table-5

Question	Answers Given	What should have been stated
<p>Unstarred Q. No. 1085 (RS) - 02.12.2005 Shri Santosh Bagrodia &amp; Harish Rawat</p> <p>Will the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution be pleased to state –</p> <p>(a) whether most regulatory laws in India have provisions for a fund to promote the purpose and object of the law but this has never been used to support consumer advocacy activities.</p>	<p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Shri Taslimuddin</p> <p>(a) No fund has been created under any of the Acts to promote the purpose and objects of the law.</p>	<p>The question was initially addressed to the Prime Minister as it was a crosscutting issue and focused on sectoral regulation, instead of consumer advocacy alone.</p> <p>(a) Editing Error: 'Whether' has been inserted which changes the meaning of the question, which was, instead, stating that the funds are not being used and, hence, asking what steps the Government was wanting to take.</p>

## II. Select Random Questions raised in the Parliaments (India & Abroad): Example of Quality Responses

Table-6

### INDIA

Questions	Answers
<p>Unstarred Q. No 243 (LS) - 26.07.2006 – Shri E.G. Sugavanam</p> <p>Will the Minister of Communications and Information Technology be pleased to state:-</p> <p>(a) whether the profit of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited(BSNL) has been on the decline during the last few years;</p> <p>(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years along with the reasons therefor; and</p> <p>(c) the steps taken to augment the profit and improve the functioning of BSNL?</p>	<p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology Dr. Shakeel Ahmad</p> <p>(a) &amp; (b): No, Sir. As per the audited accounts, details of the net profits earned by BSNL during the year 2002-03 to 2004-05 is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Year 2002-03 Rs.1444.44 crores</li> <li>• Financial Year 2003-04 Rs.5976.52 crores</li> <li>• Financial Year 2004-05 Rs.10183.29crores</li> </ul> <p>(c) BSNL is diversifying into new areas of business such as Broadband, ILD Business, Direct International Roaming and Turnkey contract for providing connectivity to the various enterprises. It has taken various measures towards providing customer friendly tariffs and services with the objective of increasing its turnover and profitability.</p>

Table-7	
INDIA	
Questions	Answers
<p>Unstarred Q. No. 3223 (LS) - 23.08.2006 Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Gurudas Das Gupta &amp; Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy</p> <p>Will the Minister of Communications &amp; Information Technology be pleased to state:-</p> <p>(a) Whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has rejected the idea of automatic route for 74 percent Foreign Direct Investment in telecom sector in the larger interest of national security; and</p> <p>(b) If so, the details thereof?</p>	<p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology Dr. Shakeel Ahmad</p> <p>(a) &amp; (b): The Government has formulated the policy for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the telecom sector and issued the Press Note No.5 (2005 Series) dated 03.11.2005, according to which automatic route is available for FDI upto 49 percent. Approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board is required for FDI beyond 49 percent with a ceiling of 74 percent.</p>

Table-8	
SOUTH AFRICA	
Questions	Answers
<p>Written Reply Q. No. 166 - Internal Q. Paper No 32 – 2006)</p> <p>B J Mkhaphi to ask the Minister for Provincial and Local Government:</p> <p>(1) (a) When are municipalities expected to complete their general valuation of rateable properties and</p> <p>(b) when will the valuation roll take effect;</p> <p>(2) whether any municipalities have been exempted from evaluating rateable properties; if so, what are the relevant details?</p>	<p>(1)(a) The Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as the Act), came into operation on July 2, 2005. In terms of the Act, all municipalities that have a power to levy rates on properties, which are currently 257 in number, have a maximum period of four years commencing on July 2, 2005 in which to fully implement the Act, by compiling and implementing a comprehensive valuation roll and a rates policy. Based on its state of readiness, each municipality has to select the commencement date for the compilation of a general valuation roll. Three municipalities completed their valuation rolls during the 2005/06 financial year.</p> <p>(1)(b) A municipal valuation roll compiled in terms of the Act takes effect from the commencement of a municipal financial year. Three municipalities implemented their new valuation rolls on July 1, 2006.</p> <p>(2) In terms of the Act, district municipalities may not levy a rate on property except on property situated within a district management area falling within its jurisdiction. A municipality that has no power to levy a rate on property is prohibited from valuing property. Section 30 of the Act empowers the Minister to fully or partially exempt a municipality from the obligation to value certain properties mentioned in that section. Up to now, there are no municipalities that have applied to the Minister for such exemption.</p>

**Table-9****NEW ZEALAND**

Questions	Answers
<p>Questions for Written Answer 20151 (2006). Katherine Rich to the Minister responsible for the Education Review Office (13 Dec 2006)</p> <p>What was the reason for the massive increase in paper use by the Education Review Office which used 9561 reams of paper in 2005/2006 over double the 4328 reams it used in the 2002/2003 financial year?</p>	<p>Hon Steve Maharey (Minister responsible for the Education Review Office)</p> <p>Duplication of returns resulted in an error in the number of reams of paper purchased and recorded in ERO's 2005/06 Annual Report. The correct number should have been 7,912 reams and not 9,561 reams. ERO will amend its 2006/07 Annual Report for the comparative year to reflect the revised figure for 2005/06. ERO has initiated measures to encourage more effective usage (e.g. through duplex printing) but it does not have definitive information on paper usage. However, one of the contributing factors to the increased purchase of paper between 2002/03 and 2005/06 would have been the 78 percent increase in early childhood education reviews and the 14 percent increase in secondary school reviews. All ERO review reports, including those requested by the public, are printed internally on A4 paper and are not sent to publishing houses for printing.</p>

**Table-10****SCOTLAND**

Questions	Answers																								
<p>S2W-19908 - Stewart Stevenson (Banff and Buchan) (SNP) - 19.10.05</p> <p>To ask the Scottish Executive</p> <p>How many (a) graduates and (b) junior posts there were in (i) medicine, (ii) nursing, (iii) midwifery and (iv) physiotherapy in each year since 1999.</p>	<p>By Allan Wilson - 14.11.05</p> <p>The number of graduates from Scottish Higher Education Institutions and Colleges in medicine, nursing, midwifery and physiotherapy are contained in the following table:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subject</th> <th>1999-2000</th> <th>2000-01</th> <th>2002-02</th> <th>2002-03</th> <th>2003-04</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clinical Medicine</td> <td>910</td> <td>865</td> <td>995</td> <td>970</td> <td>980</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td> <td>3,275</td> <td>3,175</td> <td>3,880</td> <td>3,990</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physiotherapy</td> <td>105</td> <td>90</td> <td>105</td> <td>210</td> <td>215</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Information on staff in post in NHS Scotland, including junior posts, is published on the Scottish Health Statistics website under Workforce Statistics, at <a href="http://www.isdscotland.org/workforce">www.isdscotland.org/workforce</a>.</p>	Subject	1999-2000	2000-01	2002-02	2002-03	2003-04	Clinical Medicine	910	865	995	970	980	Nursing & Midwifery	3,275	3,175	3,880	3,990	N/A	Physiotherapy	105	90	105	210	215
Subject	1999-2000	2000-01	2002-02	2002-03	2003-04																				
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