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13. International Wireless Communication.		Mobile Trunked Service
14. Spectrum Products Inc.		Radio Paging Service
15. Ims Inc.		Radio Paging Service
16. Wicom R & D		FA-X Machines
		Manufacture of

Surcharge on Aviation Turbine Fuel

*710. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil Coordination Committee has imposed a hefty surcharge on oil companies handling aviation turbine fuel (ATF) inputs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact of the surcharge on price of ATF; and

(d) its likely effect on the civil aviation sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) . (a) to (d). Price of ATF sold to domestic airlines is administered. The administered prices are so structured as to make the essential products available at an affordable price. Therefore, items of mass consumption like SKO, HSD etc. are subsidised and products like ATF, MS are priced in a manner so as to provide cross subsidy. Exim policy has permitted the import of ATF under SIL. Presently Rs. 3292/KL has been fixed for using the facilities for import of ATF under SIL.

Postal Conference

*711. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 21st Congress of the Universal Postal Union was held at Seoul during August-September, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main points discussed and decisions arrived at the conference;

(d) whether India had apprised the Conference about the steps taken to modernise postal services and operations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) to what extent the decisions taken in the Conference have been introduced in Indian Postal Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) to (g). The 21st Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) was held at Seoul during August-September 1994. It was attended by delegations from 174 member-countries of the Union. The Indian delegation was led by Minister of State for Communications and comprised other senior officials of the Department of Post. The Congress discussed 823 proposals. The main issues which were discussed and on which decisions were taken were . (i) organisation and functioning of the UPU, (ii) strategy of the post offices of the member-countries of the Union for the next five years, (iii) conventions of the Universal Postal Union regarding international mail service and the detailed regulations, (iv) various other matters like parcel postage rates, quality of service of international mail, reciprocal dues between member-countries for mail service. The Indian delegation apprised the Conference about the steps taken to modernise postal services and operations in India, especially the introduction of new services which are user-specific and meant to generate additional revenues and bring in efficiency of operations. The Seoul postal strategy adopted by the Congress emphasises greater customer orientation and making postal services more relevant in the age of telecommunications. The Department of Post in India has taken several steps for implementation of the Seoul postal strategy and will continue to strive in this direction during the next five years.

[Translation]

Coal Pilferage

*712. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the amount of coal pilfered from the coal mines;

(b) if so, the quantity of coal and its value in terms of money pilfered every year; and

(c) the steps taken to check the pilferage in coal mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b). No Sir. The quantity and value of coal pilfered cannot be assessed as pilferage is clandestine. However, the quantity of