

The enquiry into the matter was carried out by the Delhi Administration. The Inquiry Officer has concluded that the fire had started due to short circuit in a Switch board installed in the Jhuggi occupied by one Shri Abdul Kalam. The Enquiry Officer has also observed that most of the Jhuggies have taken illegal electric connections with the connivance of DESU Staff and possibly the police. No particular DESU employee has been specified in the Inquiry Report for alleged connivance in providing the illegal connections in the said J. J. Colony. The findings of the Inquiry Officer have been referred to the Vigilance Department of DESU.

(c) when these air services are likely to be restored ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) For commercial and operational reasons, Vayudoot services on the route Bombay Surat-Udaipur-Delhi have been withdrawn. There is no possibility of restoration of these services at the present juncture.

[*Translation*]

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN BIHAR

*223. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered exploring the possibilities of development of tourism in East Champaran of Bihar in view of widespread natural beauty and places of historical and tourist importance;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to provide lodging facilities for tourists at Kesria, Peepra, Areraj, Motihari, Jheel and on the road leading to Nepal;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to develop Moti Jheel in Motihari, construct a hotel in the Jheel and to provide a motel at Areraj;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (e) Development of tourism infrastructure is primary the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Central Government extends financial assistance to State Governments on the basis of specific proposals received from them for development of tourism infrastructure, their merits, availability of funds and inter-se-priority.

CONSTRUCTION OF OIL TERMINAL AT PARADIP PORT

*221. SHRI LOK NATH CHOUDHURY :

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government for construction of an oil terminal at Paradip Port; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) IOC propose to construct a Marketing Terminal at Paradip Port with a tankage of 1 lakh kilo liters at an estimated cost of Rs. 43 crores. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation propose to put up a 40,000 KL tankage at an estimated cost of Rs. 8 60 crores.

CLOSURE OF VAYUDOOT SERVICES

*222. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Bombay-Surat-Bhavnagar-Bombay and Bombay-Surat-Udaipur-Delhi Vayudoot services have been closed for the last three months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

No proposal for Central financial assistance has been received from the Govt. of Bihar for development of Tourism facilities at Kesria, Peepra, Areraj, Motihari, Jheel and on the road leading to Nepal.

[English]

GAS PRICING

*224. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gurarat has submitted any comments on Kelkar Committee's recommendations regarding gas pricing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) Representations have been received from time to time from the Government of Gujarat regarding the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee. These are considered while taking decisions on the recommendations.

APPOINTMENT IN GROUND SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF AIR INDIA

*867. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ground Services Department (G.S.D.) of the Air India was carved out of its Engineering Department; and if so, when;

(b) the initial strength of Senior Officers viz., Manager, Deputy Director and Director as on October 1, 1990;

(c) whether any Rules had been framed for appointment to the posts of Deputy

Director and Director and if so, when it was published in the gazette of India;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the manner in which appointment to these posts had been made in the past and at present ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It was done in September, 1971.

(b) The strength of Managers and above as on 1st October, 1990 was 24.

(c) to (e) Appointment to the post of Director is on the basis of merit with the approval of the Board of Directors. The appointment to the post of Deputy Director is made either by horizontal transfers or internal promotion. The promotion policy and procedures have been laid down by Air India. Such circulars are not published in the Gazette of India.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM TOURISM

868. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount in foreign exchange earned from tourism during 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(b) the steps taken to earn more foreign exchange from tourism in future ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) The foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 1989-80 and 1990-91 are provisionally estimated to be Rs. 2456 crores and Rs. 2444 crores respectively.

(b) The steps taken include continuous upgradation of tourism infrastructure in the country and strengthening of marketing efforts in the overseas markets.