

[English]

Seating capacity in IA Fleet

*480. SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANT-RAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines propose to increase the seating capacity in its fleet during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines plans to augment its capacity by 25-30 per cent during the current financial year with the phased re-induction of the A-320 aircraft. This capacity increase would be spread over the network, consistent with the traffic growth occurring on different routes.

Mangalore Refinery

*481. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-
YAPPA:

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

(a) the progress made so far in respect of setting up of Mangalore Refinery;

(b) the time by which the refinery is likely to start functioning; and

(c) the total estimated cost of the refinery?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The project, which is estimated to cost Rs. 1160 crores (at June, 1990 prices) has been approved by Government in April, 1991 and is expected to be commissioned by April, 1995.

Suspension of Services of Airbus A-320

*482. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to suspend again all the services of Airbus A-320 due to mechanical defects; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Hajipur-Bettiah Railway Line

*483. SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand for construction of railway line between Hajipur and Bettiah via Vaishali, Devariya, Sahibganj and Arerajin Bihar;

(b) whether the Government had conducted a survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Working Capital Management in ITDC

*484. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether in November, 1974 the Administrative Reforms Commission had studied and submitted its report on two aspects of 'working capital management' i.e.

- (i) Management of Inventory and
- (ii) Management of Accounts Receivable, in the India Tourism Development Corporation in 1975 and 1976 respectively; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Commission and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir, At the request of ITDC, the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms in the latter half of 1974 made a comprehensive study of existing procedures of ITDC Delhi based hotels relating to purchases, billing, collection etc. and submitted its reports on 'Inventory Management' in June 1975 and on 'Accounts Receivable Management' in October 1976.

(b) The details of the recommendations made by the Commission and

Recommendation

1. *Inventory Management*

To introduce scientific methods of inventory management including maintenance of stores value accounts, periodical review of inventories, award of central rate contract etc.

Accounts Receivable Management

To formulate a detailed credit policy including follow-up action for realisation of outstanding and write off of bad debts.

Direct Flights to Australia

*485. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce direct flights to and from Australia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

LPG connections on recommendations of Members of Parliament

*486. SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections sanctioned by the previous Government during 1990-91 on the recommendations of Members of Parliament;

(b) the time by which the LPG connections are likely to be released against the sanctions; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of LPG connections proposed to be given during 1991-92 on the recommendations of Members of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) During period

the action taken thereon by ITDC are as follows:

Action Taken

An Inventory Controller was appointed in March 1979. Detailed guidelines on inventory management were worked out and issued to all hotel units of ITDC.

The inventory management functions are performed by the hotel units themselves. The MM&D Division at the corporate level monitors inventories, awards central rate contracts for bulk purchase items and arranges interunit transfers of surplus stores, disposal of obsolete items etc.

Detailed guidelines for extending credit to various categories of customers were worked out and issued to all hotel units in June 1977 indicating inter-alia the terms and conditions for credit, time limits for sending bills, follow-up action for realisation review of outstandings, write off of bad debts etc. A credit policy was also formulated and circulated in July 1982.

November 10, 1990 to March 31, 1991, 12617 connections were released.

(b) The process of releases starts immediately after the sanction is issued.

(c) Each M.P. can recommend 48 LPG connections in a year.

[English]

Leakage of poisonous gas in Nagpur coalfields

3421. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of miners died in and around Nagpur coalfields under the control of Western Coalfields Limited due to poisonous gas leakage;

(b) whether the authorities had failed to adopt proper safety measures; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Coal Company has taken adequate safety measures in this regard. Mechanical ventilators are provided, as per statute, to regulate the levels of such gases within permissible limits. Flame Safety lamps are also provided to detect presence of such gases.