

to whom the gas agencies have been allotted; and

(d) the number of agencies allotted by the Government out of discretionary quota there?

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

IOC	BPC	HPC
16	6	12

(b) Nil.

(c) Two.

(d) Twenty One. These are being reviewed.

Suspension of Air Services between Kanpur and Delhi

3582. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines flight between Kanpur and Delhi has been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and when it was suspended;

(c) whether the Government have received any memorandum for its restoration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) when it is proposed to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines services between Kanpur and Delhi were suspended along with a number of other services in order to operate charter flights for evacuation of Indian nationals from the Gulf in September, 1990.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines had received requests from traders and business houses of Kanpur for restoration of the service.

(e) The service has been restored by Indian Airlines with effect from 1.8.1991.

[English]

Southern gas Grid

3583. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up southern gas grid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The matter is being examined by an Inter-Ministerial Group.

Chitradurga and Davanagara Railway Line

3584. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal for constructing a railway line between Chitradurga and Davanagara in view of high density of passengers traffic between these two centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Demand of Petroleum Products

3585. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of petrol, petroleum products and natural gas in the country at present;

(b) the percentage of total requirement of petrol, petroleum products and natural gas being produced in the country;

(c) the quantity of petrol and other petroleum products imported during the last three years and the countries from which these have been imported and the total cost involved therein;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any special action plan to achieve self reliance in the field of petrol; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b)

	Demand (MT)	Indigenous Production (%)
Petrol	3.884	100%
Petroleum products	56.781	86% (Approx.)

The current use of natural gas in the country is about 33 MMSCMD. Natural Gas is indigenously produced.

(c) Year	Quantity (In '000 Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1988-89	6495	1559.84
1989-90*	6564	2254.71
1990-91*	8660	4660.21

*Provisional.

Petroleum products are imported both under Term Contracts and through Spot Purchases. Spot purchases are not always relatable to specific countries.

(d) and (e) Steps for increasing self reliance include increasing indigenous crude oil production, augmenting refining capacity by expansion of existing refineries and setting up of new grass root refineries, demand management and conservation measures, inter-fuel substitution.

[English]

Expansion of Calicut Airport

3586. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala for the operation of daily Indian Airlines flight from Bombay to Calicut; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines is operating a daily A-320 service between Bombay and Calicut.

Direct Flight to Canada

3587. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India propose to start a direct flight to Canada; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Air India has already started its biweekly services to Toronto via London since 1st of June, 1991.

Foreign Exchange Savings due to Restrictions on sale of Petrol and Diesel

3588. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the extent of foreign exchange saved during National Front Government on account of the restriction imposed on sale of petrol and diesel?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): It is not possible to quantify the impact of any specific factor on the consumption of petrol and diesel.

[Translation]

Train Between Gaya and Howrah

3589. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no daily express train between Howrah and Gaya to facilitate passengers who visit pilgrimage centres on this route and also passengers travelling for business purposes;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce any express train on this grand chord railway line passing through Chota-Nagpur station on this route; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There are 4 pairs of