

(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

daily Mail/Express trains which provide direct train service between Howrah and Gaya.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Railway Booking Office at Chatra, Bihar

3590. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand for opening a railway booking office (out agencies) at district headquarter of Chatra (Bihar); and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) A proposal for opening a Railway Out Agency at Chatra, in Bihar was received.

(b) Traffic potential from Chatra does not justify opening of an Out Agency.

Booking Offices in Chhota Nagpur-Santhal Pargana Area

3591. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open railway booking offices in the district headquarters of Chhotanagpur-Santhal Pargana of Bihar which have not been linked with railway lines; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Out agencies at Hazaribagh and Dumka were operated by Bihar State Road Transport Corporation (BSRTC). Unsatisfactory working and unwillingness of BSRTC to continue the work due to inadequate traffic led to the closure of these out agencies from 1.8.88 and 1.9.88, respectively. Reopening of Out Agencies at these locations can be considered if Government or private contractors are willing to take up the work on standard terms and conditions.

Rail Lines in Uttar Pradesh

3592. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the locations in Uttar Pradesh where new Railway lines are being laid or are to be laid during the Eighth Five Year Plan to connect rural and urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): Work for construction of new lines on the following sections has already been taken up:

- (i) Mathura-Alwar
- (ii) Rampur-New Haldwani (Kathgodam)
- (iii) Bagaha-Chhitauni (Restoration)
- (iv) Guna-Etawah

No proposal for the Eighth Plan has been finalised so far.

Conversion of Rail Lines in U.P.

3593. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: SHRI RAM BADAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have submitted representations to the Union Government for converting the existing metre gauge lines into broad gauge and construction of new railway lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh has recently requested for construction of a new line between Farrukhabad and Hardoi/Sandila to connect Mainpuri District.

(c) The proposed railway line which would also involve construction of a railway bridge across River Ganga would require heavy investment and cannot be considered for the present due to constraint of resources.