

generating power to its full capacity due to shortage of coal; and

(b) if so, the reasons for short supply of coal and the arrangements being made by the Government to provide adequate quantity of coal to this station ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) According to the information received from Central Electricity Authority, Satpura Thermal Power Station suffered generation loss of 111 million units during the period April-July, 1991 due to coal shortage.

(b) The main reason for short supply of coal to Satpura Thermal Power Station is less production in the linked mines and inadequate movement of coal by rail from PENCH-KANHAN Coalfields of Western Coalfields. In order to provide adequate coal to this power station, arrangements were made to despatch coal from South Eastern Coalfields Ltd during May and June, 1991 to the extent of 27 30 thousand tonnes. Instructions have been issued to coal companies to step up production so that adequate coal could be despatched to this Power Station.

Air Taxi Operation in Commercial Sector

[English]

4521. SHRI P. C THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private companies are proposed to be allowed to operate in commercial air cargo sector

(b) whether the flights of the Asia Asiatic Limited have been suspended; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and when these services are likely to be restored ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Private companies operating Air Taxi Services, can carry cargo also.

(b) and (c) It has been reported that flights of Air Asiatic Limited have been suspended due to its own internal problems.

Air-bus on Gulf Routes

[Translation]

4522. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of old air-buses in operation under the Air India on the gulf routes; and

(b) the comparative details in regard to the percentage utilisation of the old and the new air-buses ? .

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Air India operates three A-300-B4 aircraft acquired in 1982 on the gulf routes

(b) The average daily utilisation of A300-B4 aircraft and A-310-300 aircraft during 1990 was 7.88 hrs and 8.49 hrs. respectively.

Passenger facilities at Uttar Pradesh stations

4523. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :