

(d) the details of plan of the Government for disposing of the old, outdated and uneconomical aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d) The fleet requirements of Air India and Indian Airlines are kept under constant review. Both Air India and Indian Airlines have been directed recently to prepare a long term perspective plan for fleet renewal so that the fleet is kept young and modern. With due consideration to commercial viability, availability of financial resources and other relevant factors, the fleet of both the national carriers would be renewed from time to time. Presently there are no plans for acquisition of aircraft by Vayudoot.

Privatisation of Oil Sector

4708. **SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL** : Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS** be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the oil sector;

(b) if so, the specific areas of oil industry which are likely to be privatised; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Low Budget Tourism Programme

4709. **SHRI RABI RAY** Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage and introduce low budget tourism programme to encourage domestic tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b) The Central Government encourages the State Government and Union Territories by extending financial assistance for creation of infrastructural facilities which could meet the demand of low budget tourists particularly the domestic traveller. The financial assistance is extended on the basis of specific proposals received from the concerned State Governments which are considered on their merits, *inter-se* priorities and availability of funds.

Financial assistance is also given to the private sector for setting up hotels/lodgings catering to the low budget tourist

[Translation]

Consumption of Petroleum Products

4710. **SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAA** : Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS** be pleased to state

(a) the item-wise consumption of the petroleum products in the country during the last three years: