

(d) the details of plan of the Government for disposing of the old, outdated and uneconomical aircraft?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

(b) whether the price of petrol was increased recently with a view to checking the consumption of petrol; and

(c) if so, the extent of success achieved in this regard and if no success has been achieved, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. DRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Statement is attached.

(b) and (c) Price of petrol has been increased from 25th July, 1991. The increase has not been made specifically or only in order to check the consumption of petrol. It is too early to assess the impact of the increase in price on consumption of petrol.

STATEMENT

Product-wise consumption of the petroleum products in the country during the last three years is as given below

(Figs. in Tmt)

PRODUCT	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
LPG	1962	2268	2417
MS	3052	3491	3540
NAPHTHA	3364	3350	3434
ATF	1713	1775	1689
SKO	7731	8239	8385
HSD	18795	20706	21079
LDO	1437	1486	1477
LUBES	847	926	910
FO/LSHS	9456	8820	8845
BITUMEN	1498	1695	1574
OTHERS	1236	1339	1424
Total	50092	54095	54772

[English]

Change in Electricity Act

4711. SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make amendments in the existing Electricity Act in order to comply with

the conditions of the World Bank loan for power projects; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed amendments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.