Thermal Power Project in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu

107. SHRIN. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to establish a thermal power station in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). No proposal in regard to the setting up of a thermal power station in the Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu has been received in the Central Electricity Authority.

Extension of Tanda-Akbarpur shuttle upto Jaunpur

108. SHRI YADVENDRA DATTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to extend the Tanda-Akbarpur shuttle upto Jaunpur so as to serve the entire area between Akbarpur and Jaunpur in view of a great public demand of the area; and
 - (b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gas Based Power Station at Mehsana in Gujarat

109. SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOM-ABHAI CHAVDA: Will the Minister of EN-ERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage

of electricity in Gujarat;

- (b) whether there is availability of Natural Gas in Mehsana District for the location of a gas based power station; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to meet the shortage of electricity in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supply of Gas to Thermal Power Station in Gujarat

110. SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOM-ABHAI CHAVDA: Will the Minister of PE-TROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of wells producing crude oil and associated gas or only natural gas in north Gujarat;
- (b) whether gas produced by these wells is not utilised to the extent possible;and
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to supply the gas to the gas based thermal power station in North Gujarat to meet the shortage of electricity in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURU-PADASWAMY): (a) As on 1.11.1989 there were 916 wells producing crude oil and associated gas or only free gas in the North Gujarat fields of ONGC.

(b) Natural Gas produced from these wells is utilised to the extent possible, except for low pressure gas which requires compression, and when the consumers fail to

use the committed quantity of gas.

(c) ONGC have committed supply of 0.4 million cubic metres of gas per day from the North Gujarat to Ahmedabad Electric Supply Company for their proposed power station at Vatva. All the low pressure gas from North Gujarat will be compressed and supplied to this power station.

Utilisation of Wind Energy

- 111. SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a tremendous scope for utilisation of wind energy in the country;
- (b) the details of the actual utilisation thereof; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken for utilisation of wind energy on a larger scale?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). A preliminary estimate has indicated a total wind power potential of over 20,000 MW in the country. Tamil Nadu and Gujarat appear to be well endowed States but significant potential is also likely in other parts of the country. Wind farm projects of capacity 10.10 MW have already been established in six states. These projects are generating on an average over 15 million units annually. Nearly 2500 windpumps have also been installed in 23 States. Wind battery chargers and standalone wind electric systems are under installation in different parts of the country. Wind survey projects are in progress in 19 States/ Union Territories.

(c) Additional wind farm projects of aggregate capacity 24.10 MW are under installation, including 10 MW projects each in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. The Working Group on New and Renewable Energy Programmes has recommended the establishment of 1500 MW wind power capacity and 10,000 windpumps during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The perspective Plan for Non-Conventional Energy Sources has indicated a total wind Power capacity of %5000 MW and 50,000 windpumps by 2000-01. The actual extent of utilisation will depend on the availability of financial resources.

LPG Connections in Salem District of Tamil Nadu

- 112. SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there are over 12,000 applications on the waiting list for LPG connections in Salem district of Tamil Nadu: and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demand and the target date fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. **GURU-**PADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enhancement of indigenous production and augumentation of imports by improving port facilities are being undertaken to meet the demand.

Acquisition of Aircraft by Vayudoot

113. SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGA-I AM: SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIN-DIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is tremendous shortage of Aircraft with Vayudoot;