

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 stand-alone 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. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Acquisition of Aircraft by Vayudoot

113. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, whether there are any plans to acquire/purchase aircraft from foreign sources; and

(c) whether tenders/negotiations are taking place and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The aircraft capacity available with Vayudoot at present is normally adequate to sustain the existing level of operations. The temporary lose of capacity due to unforeseen groundings, however, affects the operations at time.

(b) and (c). To meet the capacity requirement for the planned expansion and to replace the ageing turbo-prop fleet and thus ensure better services, Vayudoot proposes to induct new generation 50 plus seats aircraft. The details have not yet been firmed up.

Delay in departure of flights of Indian Airlines

114. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the general complaints regarding frequent delay in departure and cancellation of flights of Indian Airlines, causing great hardship to the passengers, besides financial losses to the Airlines;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in departure of different types of aircraft of the Indian Airlines by more than one hour during the current year till 30 November, 1989;

(c) the details of cancellation of flights of different Aircrafts of Indian Airlines with their reasons during the said period;

(d) the financial losses involved due to

the cancellation of flights; and

(e) the concrete steps taken or being taken to improve preventive maintenance of aircrafts to avoid such delay/cancellation of flights?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the current financial year till 30th November, 1989, in Indian Airlines, approximately 8% delays were on account of aircraft maintenance and handling, 8% due to inclement weather, airport facilities and other reason attribute to functioning of other agencies and the remaining 84% delays were consequential delays.

(c) Out of a total of 2108 cancellations during the current financial year, upto 30th of November, 1989, which makes 2.4% of the total departures, 130 flights were cancelled due to aircraft maintenance and handling, 803 due to weather, misc. and other reasons and 1175 flights were cancelled due to consequential reasons.

(d) It is not possible to quantify the loss due to cancellations of flights as on such occasions, large number of passengers travel by alternate schedule services of Indian Airlines. However, Indian Airlines incurs expenditure of passengers towards hotel accomodation, food and transportation. The expenditure on this account during 1989-90 (upto November, 1989) is estimated at Rs. 2.95 crores.

(e) A preventive maintenance programme based on the manufacturer's recommendations and as approved by the Director General, Civil Aviation is followed by Indian Airlines. In addition, all technical delays are investigated and suitable action is taken to avoid recurrence.