

services per week (an average of more than 8 flights per day) between India and the Gulf which is sufficient to cater to the needs of India-Gulf passengers.

#### **Unauthorised collection from ticketless travellers**

5219. DR. ASIMBALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of youths with some railway symbol market cloth band on their arms and some identity card in their pockets are harassing the commuters and collecting money from the ticketless passengers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Volunteers engaged by the Railways only assist the ticket checking staff in apprehending the ticketless travellers on trains. They are not authorised to collect any Railway dues from them. Action is taken against these volunteers as and when complaints are received against them.

#### **Supply of Kerosene to Kerala**

5220. PROF. P.J.KURIEN:  
SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-  
THALA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present supply of kerosene to Kerala is sufficient;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to augment the supply;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d). The kerosene requirements of State and UTs including Kerala are assessed by allowing a suitable growth rate over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocation are made accordingly. Besides the regular allocations, adhoc releases are also given to meet situations like flood, drought, shortage of LPG etc.

The total allocation of Kerosene to Kerala was 2,27,246 tonnes in 1987, 2,38,642 tonnes in 1988 and 2,51,255 tonnes in 1989. The allocation for the summer Block from March, 1990 to June, 1990 has been made at the rate of 20,229 tonnes per months.

The allocation of kerosene to Kerala, in accordance with the existing policy, is considered adequate.

#### **Assistance to Agro-based Paper Mills**

5221. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agro Paper Mills Association has urged Government to provide adequate policy support to agro-based paper mills with a view to meet the growing paper requirements;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the proposal made in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have been receiving representations from various Paper Industry Associations, including In-