

Abu Dhabi, Muscat and Dubai were partially resumed with effect from 22nd January, 1991. It is estimated that the net cash loss to Air India on account of the cancellation of these flights during the period 16th January, 1991 to 28th February, 1991 is of the order of Rs. 17 crores. Air India had undertaken route rationalisation and economy in expenditure to cope with the situation. Now that the Gulf war is over, Air India would restore its operations to the Gulf countries.

Paraffin Project of BPCL

1447. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

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

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Project for Paraffin production has been scuttled; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Government has not yet taken a final decision on the project of Bharat Petroleum Corporation for the production of N. Paraffins.

Train Accidents in Western Railways

1448. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents of Western Railways occurred in Gujarat state since January, 1990 to February 10, 1991:

(b) the reasons of each accident;

(c) the details of loss of life and properties;

(d) the details of compensation paid to each victim;

(e) the action taken against those who are responsible for the accidents; and

(f) the details of the enquiry reports?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (f) Statistics of train accidents and related information are maintained railway zone-wise and not State-wise.

[Translation]

Alternative to Fuels

1449. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the alternative measures under consideration of the Government to meet the requisite fuel demand of the country, so as to make it self-sufficient in view of the Gulf crisis; and

(b) the details of the sources identified so far through the scientific researches to overcome the oil crisis and make the country self-sufficient?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Various measures have been taken and are being taken to meet the fuel demand of the country, particularly in view of the current Gulf crisis. Beside fiscal measures, these include:—

(i) Import of crude oil and petroleum products to the extent feasible from alternative sources abroad.

(ii) Regulation of release/supply of available products to various consumers.

(iii) Reduction in the consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles by Central Government Ministries/Depts. & Public Sector Undertakings, etc.

- (iv) More efficient use and conservation of petroleum products.

For medium and long term purposes, the following additional measures are envisaged:—

- (a) The Inter-Ministerial Working Group appointed on Formulation of Action Plan to Restrain the Growth in the Import Bill for Crude and Petroleum Products has in its report made a variety of recommendations in the various sectors of economy for Government's consideration and implementation.
- (b) Encouraging use of alternative sources of energy such as electricity, coal, bio-gas, bio-mass, solar energy, etc. for which efforts are already continuing.
- (c) Exploration of the possibility of inter-fuel substitution such as alcohols (ethanol/methanol), Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and LPG in the transport sector, which are techno-economically feasible.
- (d) Intensification of exploration and production of crude oil and gas from the indigenous sources.
- (e) Augmentation of the refining capacity in the country.

[*English*]

Circular Rail in Madras

1450. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned for the circular rail project in Madras city;

(b) the amount spent so far for this project; and

(c) when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There is no such approved project with the Railways.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

SC/ST GM/DGM in Railways

1451. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts of General Managers and Deputy General Managers in the Railways and the number of those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;

(b) the total number of posts of the Head of the Department and Circle Railway Manager and the number of SC/ST officers holding these posts;

(c) whether any posts out of these reserved for SCs/STs are lying vacant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to fill the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) and (b) The total number of posts of General Managers and equivalent on the Railways is 19, and one of these posts is at present held by a Scheduled Caste officer. Rest of the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) There is no reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in these posts as per Rules.

Modernisation of Chitrakootdham Karavi Station

1452. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal regarding restructuring and renewal of