

(c) whether feasibility study has been made to reduce consumption of petroleum oil by an accelerated growth of indigenous power generation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) About 20.80 MMT crude oil was imported during 1990. Crude Oil imports are effected both under Term Contracts and through Spot purchases. Spot purchases are not always relatable to specific countries.

(b) The imports and indigenous production of crude oil by 2001 AD will depend on the materialisation of the planned projects and the level of demand.

(c) and (d) Certain on going programmes like Rural electrification, Railways electrification and efforts being made in the direction of development of renewable sources of energy are expected to lead to savings in the consumption of petroleum products.

[Translation]

STOPPAGE OF NEW TRAINS AT RATLAM

905. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two new trains services are being introduced between Delhi and Bombay;

(b) whether there is a demand for providing stoppage of these trains at Ratlam junction; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) 2953/2954 New Delhi-Bombay A.C. Express (Tri-weekly) have been introduced w.e.f. 1-7-1991.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Stoppage is not being provided.

[English]

PROVIDING OF HALT AT STATIONS (THANE DISTRICT)

906. PROF. RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide halt at Dombivli Station (Thane District) for all passenger trains and at Thane station for all mail/express trains to and from Bombay VT for the benefit of passengers.

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational exigencies.

SETTING UP OF GAS BASED POWER PLANT IN MADHYA PRADESH

907. SHRI DIGVUAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a 550 Km. long gas pipeline passes through Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the proposal to set up gas based power plants in the State is pending approval and if so, since when; and

(c) the time by which sanction is likely to be accorded for setting up of gas based power plants in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Madhya Pradesh have in August '90 submitted a project report for installation of a 817 MW gas based power station in Bhandar Tehsil of District Gwalior. The project envisages the use of gas from HBJ pipeline.

(c) Certain inputs such as compliance of Section 29 of ES Act, 1948, gas linkage, environmental (Centre), environmental (State), water availability, National Airports Authority etc. have not been tied up by the State Government. The scheme can be considered for techno-economic clearance of CEA only when all the necessary inputs for the Gwalior GTCC TPS are tied-up.

RAIL LINK FROM BHADRAK TO PARADEEP

908. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any demand for linking Bhadrak with Paradeep via Jaipur Town and Kendrapara (South-Eastern Railway);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted or proposed to be conducted for this route;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) At the beginning of 1991-92, Railways had on hand 24 new line projects totalling 2070 km and 1' gauge conversion projects for 2118 km. The balance of funds required for their completion is about Rs. 3,005 crores. The outlay provi-

ded by the Planning Commission is Rs. 250-300 crores a year for these projects. At this rate it would take several years to complete even the on-going schemes. As such it would be difficult to take up the above work. Under the circumstances no useful purpose will be served by carrying out survey for the proposed line at present.

OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING BY PRIVATE COMPANIES

909. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain companies involved in off-shore oil drilling have been pressurising the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) to change the tender evaluation norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the benefits to be enjoyed on relaxation of these norms ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NEW ITEM CAPTIONED "AIRLINES—A MESS FOR SCINDIA TO CLEAR"

910. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Airlines—A mess for Scindia to clear" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated July 8, 1991; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.