

for the telephones.

Tourist Centres, Hotels and Yatri Niwas in Uttar Pradesh

1755. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the tourist centres, hotels and yatri niwas set up with central assistance in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the extent of financial assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years;

(b) the details of proposals of the Government of Uttar Pradesh which are under consideration of the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for their early disposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During the last three years viz. 1989-90 to 1991-92, the Department of Tourism have extended central financial assistance amounting to Rs. 281.65 lakhs for the construction of 12 motels, 5 tourist complexes and 3 yatri niwas.

(b) and (c). A travel circuit has been identified for intensive development in the State of Uttar Pradesh which includes Rishikesh-Narender Nagar-Gangotiri-Badrinath. The proposals for central financial assistance is still to be finalised in consultation with the State Government.

[English]

Electricity Tariff in States

1756. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electricity tariffs being increased in many States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the States which have increased the power tariff as per guidelines issued by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The existing tariff for sale of power in most States are four below the cost of generation and supply. Apart from the fact that State Electricity Boards have to function on commercial principles, Electricity (Supply) Act 1948 stipulates that States Electricity Boards have to earn a statutory minimum surplus of 3% on the net fixed assets at the beginning of the year. The Conference of State Ministers held on 4.4.92 has also resolved that the state Electricity Boards should function on sound commercial principles and that the minimum agricultural tariff for electrical energy be fixed at 50 paise per unit, for the present.

During 1991-92, 14 SEBs have revised their tariff rates. As per available information, the States of Orissa, Manipur and Assam have fixed agricultural tariff at 50 paise per unit and above.

[English]

Economic Viability of Vayudoot Aircraft

1757. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the aircrafts with the Vayudoot are not economically viable;

(b) if so, the details of the aircrafts on the Vayudoot fleet;

(c) the number out of them which have completed their period of operation and the details thereof; and

(d) the present cost effectiveness of keeping them on wings?

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

(b) Vayudoot is at present having eight Dornier-228, eight HS-748 and one F-27 aircraft in its fleet.

(c) and (d). None of the aircraft has completed its operational life. At the present fare structure, operations of Vayudoot are not cost effective.

ADVTs. on AIR/Doordarshan

1758. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted for accepting advertisements on Doordarshan and AIR;

(b) the rates for various types of advertisements in National Network and regional programmes on Doordarshan; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to revise these rates; and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) Advertisements on Doordarshan and All India Radio are accepted on 'First Come, First Served Basis', subject to availability of the slot and adherence to the code for Commercial Broadcasting.

(b) The rate of spot buy (10 seconds) varies from Rs. 15.00 to Rs. 1,20,000 depending upon kendra/channel/National network and the different time categories.

(c) No, Sir.

Exploration of Water in Gujarat, Rajasthan, M. P. And U. P.

1759. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the district in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh where land survey has been conducted for the exploration of water;

(b) the total amount spent in each of the above States; and

(c) the extent of the availability of water in the districts of above States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The Central Ground Water Board have completed systematic hydrogeological survey in the States of Gujarat Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Names of the districts covered by exploratory drilling for ground water are given in Statement-1.

(b) The total amount spent during 1991-92 for Survey, Investigation and exploration of Ground Water in the States of