

[English]

Direct flight from Madras to Arab Countries

7176. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a direct flight from Madras to Arab Countries, especially to Delhi (Sharjah);

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Air India and Indian Airlines are not contemplating commencement of direct international air services between Madras and Arab countries. Indian Airlines since has commenced a service from Madras going upto Sharjah via Bangalore and Calicut.

Villages Electrified in Tamil Nadu through Non-Conventional Energy Sources

7177. DR. V. RAJESWARAN:
SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in Tamil Nadu through generation of power on non-conventional basis;

(b) the number of villages proposed to be included in the Eighth Plan through Non-Conventional Energy and the amount allocated in the Plan; and

(c) the details regarding the generation of non-conventional energy by means of solar, wind, waves etc. in various states?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) In the State of Tamil Nadu 365 villages and hamlets have been provided with Photovoltaic lighting systems. In addition, an aggregate capacity of about 21 MW wind power projects have been commissioned and electricity is being fed to State grid. 44 nos. of biomass gasifiers/stirling engines of different ratings equivalent to about 218 KW have been taken up for mechanical and electrical modes at different sites all over the State.

(b) Proposals for 8th Five Year Plan have not yet been finalized.

(c) A total of 112 million units of electricity have been fed to the respective State grids from the 33.85 MW demonstration wind farm projects set up so far in different States. From the estimated 4 MW aggregated capacity of solar photovoltaic systems installed in different parts of the country, it is expected to generate about 6-8 million KWhr (units) of energy annually.

105 nos. of mini/micro hydel projects of aggregated capacity of 79.35 MW have been installed in different States of the country. In addition, 862 nos. of gasifiers and stirling engines of different ratings and modes equivalent to about 6.5 MW aggregated capacity have been installed in rural areas and are being utilised either for water pumping for irrigation purposes or for electricity generation. 2 nos. of experimental solar thermal power plants of 70 KW aggregated capacity have been installed for research and development purposes. A Research and Development Pilot Plant for generation of electricity from sea waves has been commissioned at Vizhinjam near Trivandrum in Kerala.