

Manufacture of CFC

7899. SHRI N.J. RATHAVA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint sector unit with the Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation as a co-promoter, has started manufacturing chloro fluorcarbon (CFC) refrigerant gases, which contributed in depleting the ozone layer and disturbing the ecological balance;

(b) if so, the details in this regard:

(c) whether the manufacture of Chlorofluorcarbon is banned in the U.S. and other countries:

(d) if so, whether the Gujarat Pollution Control Board has issued a 'No Objection Certificate' to this joint sector unit and the reasons therefor:

(e) whether Government has decided to re-consider this decision: and

(f) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). M/s. Gujarat Fluoro chemicals Ltd., jointly promoted by M/s. SMS Udyog Private Ltd., and M/s. Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation, a wholly owned Corporation of Government of Gujarat, has commenced commercial production of chlorofluorocarbon Refrigerant Gases (CFC) with effect from the 1st October, 1989.

(c) Manufacture of CFC has not been totally banned in the USA and other countries.

(d) Gujarat Pollution Control Board has issued No Objection Certificate to M/s. Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd., for the manufacture of Chlorofluorocarbon gases.

(e) and (f). There is no proposal to re-consider the project.

[Translation]

Air Services in Hilly Areas

7900. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce air services at reduced fares in hilly areas of the country to promote domestic flights in consultation with the Planning Commission; and

(b) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to make available air services within the reach of general public in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Subsidised air fares are already available in the North Eastern Region. There is no proposal for further extension of subsidised air fare due to higher operational cost of the airlines.

Change of Names of Railway Stations

7901. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether names of railway stations in the country which are after the names of the British people and their lackeys:

(b) whether the names of such railway stations on Northern Railway are proposed to be changed;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There are a few old stations with British names.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per extant procedure any change in the existing name of Railway station can be made only on the recommendations of the State Government concerned duly con- firmed in by the Ministry of Home Affairs. At present no such proposal from the State Government is pending with the Northern Railway.

[English]

Separate Zone for Karnataka

7902. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-
YAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka State is split among three railway zones;

(b) whether there is a persistent demand to end the triple administrative control and carve out a separate Karnataka railway zone with headquarters in Bangalore;

(c) whether the Railway Reforms Committee had recommended the creation of a South Western Railway zone with headquarters in Bangalore; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Union Govern- ment thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir

(d) Due to severe financial constraints, the Railways are not considering the crea- tion of any new zone for the present.

Production of quality paper by Khadi and Village Industries

7903. SHRI P. PENCHALAIAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to pro- duce good quality paper by Khadi and Vil- lage Industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUS- TRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUS- TRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b). the Quality of Handmade paper under Khadi and village Industries is being continuously improved through Research and Develop- ment Institutions like Handmade Paper Research Project and Experimental Hand- made Paper Unit at Dehradun. During 1988- 89 a cylinder mould vat of specific capacity was introduced so as to improve productivity and quality. A process was successfully developed for the use of agro-wastes like paddy straw, wheat straw, Arhar sticks and Bamboo as raw material.

Production Performance of Public Undertakings

7904. SHRI ERA ANBARASU:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been improve- ment in production performance of public sector undertakings during the last quarter