

**Alumina Plant**

1814. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Alumina Plant in Orissa during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) whether any company has shown its interest in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The Government does not have any proposal to set up any new Public Sector Alumina Plant.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government have granted permission to M/s Indian Aluminium Company Ltd. and M/s Larsen & Toubro Limited to set up 1 Million Tonnes per year each 100% Export Oriented Alumina producing Units in the State of Orissa.

**Conversion of LPT**

1815 DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that some Low Power Transmitters are not working satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to convert some Low Power Transmitters into High Power Transmitters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). While the overall performance of the Low Power Transmitters in the country is reported to be satisfactory, the complaints of malfunctioning of the Low Power Transmitters on account of break-down in power and failure of some components, whenever received, are promptly attended to and defects duly rectified.

(d) and (e). Details are enclosed as statement.

**STATEMENT**

*List Showing Locations of Existing Low Power Transmitters State-Wise Which are Under Implementation/Envisaged to be Replaced by High Power Transmitters.*

State/Union Territory	Location
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Ongole Kurnool Rajamundry Warangal Hyderabad (DD II)
Assam	Tezpur Jorhat Kokrajhar/Bongaigaon
Bihar	Motihari Jameshedpur Deoghar
Haryana	Hissar
Gujarat	Bhuj (permanent set up 300 M tower) Surat Vadodra Junagarh Palitana
Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala
Jammu & Kashmir	Kathua
Karnataka	Gulbarga (augmentation) Bangalore (DD II) Mangalore Mysore Raichur Hassan
Kerala	Calicut (augmentation) Cannanore
Madhya Pradesh	Ambikapur Guna Shahodol Sagar
Maharashtra	Chandrapur Jalgaon Bhampuri
Orissa	Baleshwar Berhampur Sambalpur (augmentation)
Punjab	Fazilka
Rajasthan	Ajmer Anupgarh Barmer

1	2
	Bikaner Jaisalmer Jodhpur Nathdwara
Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri Kumbakonam Tirunelveli
Uttar Pradesh	Banda Lakhimpur
West Bengal	Balurghat Kharagpur Krishnanagar Shantiniketan
Pondicherry	Pondicherry

#### Shortage of Kerosene

1816. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that supply of Kerosene is extremely less in Fair Price Shops and Consumers Stores are selling the same to petty Kerosene dealers/sellers at a higher prices;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for shortage of Kerosene as a whole; and

(c) the precautionary measures being taken to stop the black-marketing of kerosene by consumer stores particularly in Indore, Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV)

(a) to (c). Government allocates kerosene to States on the basis of availability, past trends in offtake and other relevant factors. The operational aspects of Public Distribution System (PDS) including inter-district/inter-regional allocation, opening of kerosene oil depots, enforcement measures, ensuring availability at the Fair Price Shops etc. are within the administrative jurisdiction of the State Govt./UT Admns. Central Government, on its part, makes all efforts to maintain regular supply of kerosene to all States/UTs including Madhya Pradesh for distribution within the State.

State Govt./UT Admns. have been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act, etc. to take action against persons indulging in malpractices such as blackmarketing. The Central Government also reviews the implementation of PDS with the State Govt./UT Admns. including Madhya Pradesh from time to time.

[Translation]

#### Functioning of Indian Airlines and Air India

1817. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the functioning of Indian Airlines and Air India.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government also propose to reduce the extra unproductive expenditure of the above organisations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if ratio of such expenditure estimated in each of the above organisations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to expand their services and improve their product, image and on time performance to attract more passengers and increase their revenues. Steps are also being taken to reduce the non-operating and operating costs. A Committee has been constituted by the Government to make recommendations on reorganisation of routes operated by Air India and Indian Airlines and possible code sharing between the two air lines.

(e) During 1994-95, the non-operating expenses of Air India and Indian Airlines (as a percentage of total expenses) were 5.48% and 11.09% respectively. During 1995-96 this figure reduced to 4.65% for Air India and 10.31% for Indian Airlines.

#### Telephones Out of Order

1818. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of telephones remained out of order/dead in the country which take a lot of time to set them right.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme so that complaints are attended to rectified expeditiously;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said scheme likely to be effective?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir, the telephones are repaired promptly.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.