

Shortage of Crude oil in Barauni Refinery

2804. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Barauni Refinery faces shortage of crude oil at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :

(a) to (c) The Barauni refinery receives approximately two million tonnes of crude from the Assam fields against its design capacity of 3 million tonnes. A scheme envisaging certain modifications and additions to the refinery plant has already been approved and is now under implementation. It is expected to be completed by mid-1974. On completion of these modifications, the refinery would be in a position to take imported crude to reach its design capacity fully. Other efforts are simultaneously being made to utilise the present balance capacity earlier, if technically feasible.

Financial Assistance to Private Hotels to promote Tourism in the Country

2805. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Aviation has recently announced in public that private parties will be financially assisted in constructing hotels in order to promote Tourism in the country; and

(b) if so, the nature of assistance and aid proposed to be given to them by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION : (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) : For providing a specialised source of financial assistance to the Hotel industry in the private sector, a Hotel Development Loans Scheme has

been in existence since 1968. Under this Scheme long term loans are advanced for financing construction of new hotel projects and also for renovation and expansion of existing Hotels.

Expenditure incurred on the inaugural flights of Air India's Jumbo Jets in October, 1971

2806. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
SHRI P. NARASIMHA RADDY :
SHRI P. A. SAMINATHAN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the inaugural flights of Air India's Jumbo Jets to London and New York in October, 1971, some Members of Parliament protested against their being accommodated in Economy Class;

(b) if so, the nature of protest and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred by Air India on the West and East-bound inaugural flights including the cost of boarding and lodging for M. Ps. in foreign countries in the course of these flights ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH)

(a) and (b) : The inaugural flights in question were operated with an all-economy class configuration.

(c) These flights were operated as normal scheduled flights and carried fare-paying passengers besides the inaugural invitees. However, the expenditure involved on the stay of 40 Members of Parliament for four days in New York is estimated at \$ 11,000.

Construction of Hotels of International standard to attract Tourists of Mysore State

2807. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have applied for loan for construction of hotels