

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India propose to buy oil tankers from abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has proposal to acquire 6 Crude Oil Tankers and 6 Product Tankers at an investment of US\$ 410 million during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

For acquisition of ships, global tenders are floated by SCI and the orders are placed on the shipyard whose offer is found to be most competitive, after obtaining approval of the competent authority.

[Translation]

Non Implementation of Reservation Policy

2946. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no officer belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward classes and other minorities among the officers of Oil India Limited, Assam;

(b) if so, whether reservation policy is not being implemented in Oil India Limited;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which this policy is likely to be implemented therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There are officers belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, other backward classes and other minorities among the officers of Oil India Limited, Assam. Their Strength as on 30th June, 1997 is as under :-

SC	:	76
ST	:	58
OBC	:	19
Minority	:	91

(b) to (d) The Reservation Policy for SC/ST and OBC in Oil India Limited is being implemented as per the Government instructions.

Distribution of Publication in I.A. Flights

2947. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the arrangement for the Publication and distributio of 'Swagat' and 'Namaskar' Magazines in the flights of Indian Airlines;

(b) the reasons for handing over this job to the private company when the distibution and publication of these magazines are possible by the Government department; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for transferring these magazines from the private party to the Government department in the public interests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Indian Airlines entered into a contract with M/s Media Transasia in April 1994 for printing and supply of 60000 copies of Swagat every month free of cost. In addition the publishers are paying Indian Airlines a sum of Rs. 8.75 lakhs every month as 'contract fee'. The contract with M/s. Media Transasia is valid for a period of 5 years from June 1994 to May 1999.

(b) Prior to awarding the contract, Indian Airlines had invited quotations from leading publishers. The contract was awarded to M/s Media Transasia on the basis of their competitive quote.

(c) Since the contract is valid till May, 1999 and the arrangements with the publisher are working to the satisfaction of Indian Airlines, the need for handing over the responsibility to any other agency has not been felt. Namaskar is the magazine of Air India, Not Indian Airlines.

Conservation of Petrol and Petroleum Products

2948. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of demand of petrol and petroleum products met from the indigenou production during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the percentage of demand to be met during the next three years from the indigenou sources; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to conserve petrol and petroleum products keeping in view the ever increasing import bill and to fulfil the requirement of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The percentage of demand of petrol and petroleum