

(a) the progress made with regard to the extension of runway at Cuddapah airport;

(b) the reasons for discontinuing the Vayudoot service to this airport;

(c) whether there is any proposal to restore the air service in the near future; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) (a) The National Airport Authority has no plan to extend the existing runway at Cuddapah airport

(b) Vayudoot service to Cuddapah has been suspended, due to the shortage of aircraft.

(c) and (d). The shortage of aircraft capacity with Vayudoot, at present, does not permit resumption of service to Cuddapah.

Implementation of Revised Prices of Drugs

8740. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether some drug companies have not implemented the revised prices as fixed by Government,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY) (a) to (c). Nine (9) drug companies have already implemented the prices fixed in respect of formulations based on 21 bulk drugs recently brought under

price control. Further, the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has asked telegraphically all the concerned State Drug Controllers to ensure that the prices fixed have been implemented by the concerned companies and send the necessary compliance Report.

Train from Poona to Calcutta

8741. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great public demand for a direct train from Poona to Calcutta; and

(b) if so, when the said train is proposed to be introduced?

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

(b) Presently not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Vayudoot Service From Bhilwara and Chittorgarh

8743. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether modern landing ground facilities with adequate infrastructure and complete terminal building for waiting lounge etc. exist at Hamirgarh Airstrip in Bhilwara district (Rajasthan);

(b) if so, whether Government propose to link Bhilwara and Chittorgarh with Vayudoot Service; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Hamirgarh airstrip in Bhilwara district has an asphalt concrete runway with dimensions of 4180'x100' and a small terminal building suitable for Dornier-228 aircraft. The airstrip has been constructed by the Government of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c). Vayudoot has no immediate plans to link Bhilwara and Chittorgarh.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Refinery in Punjab

8744. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether Union Government propose to set up an oil-refinery in Punjab:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). The location of an oil refinery is decided on the basis of various techno-economic consideration which inter-alia include availability of crude oil, demand/supply balance of products in the area to be served etc. Keeping in view the above, there is no proposal at present to set up an oil refinery in Punjab.

Extension of Hariharnath Express

8745. SHRIRAMENDRAKUMARRAVI YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of Madhepura district in Bihar do not have adequate facilities:

(b) if so, whether Government propose to extend the Hariharnath Express train from Barabanki to Sonpur via Madhepura, Saharsa; and

(c) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The services available at stations in Madhepura district are considered adequate to cater the present level of traffic.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

LPG Agency in Pratapgarh, Rajasthan

8746. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities in Rajasthan where cooking gas is being supplied at present;

(b) whether applications were invited in December, 1989 for allotting gas agencies in Pratapgarh Tehsil of Chittorgarh district in Rajasthan; and

(c) if so, the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The required information is given in the statement below.

(b) and (c). An advertisement for an LPG distributorship at Pratapgarh was released in October, 1989. The applications received in response to this advertisement have been forwarded by the concerned oil company to the Oil Selection Board (North) for interview and selection of a distributor.