

frequency of Vidarbha Express from Nagpur to Bombay from tri-weekly to daily basis in view of increasing need;

(b) if so, when the proposal is likely to be cleared;

(c) the steps being taken to replace old compartments of Vidarbha Express and provide better facilities on this train; and

(d) the details of measures taken/proposed during the current year to provide A.C. II Class and other facilities to Maharashtra Express?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.
(c) The replacement of old coaches on age-cum-condition basis is an ongoing process. Coaches in use have all the standard passenger amenities.

(d) Presently there is no proposal to provide A.C. 2-tier coach by Maharashtra Express.

Printing of "Swagat" Publication by Indian Airlines

*382. SHRI G. M. BANAT-WALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inflight magazine "Swagat" of the Indian Airlines is printed and published by a foreign firm;

(b) if so, the amount paid for bringing out the publication;

(c) the terms of agreement with the firm;

(d) the amount of outflow of foreign exchange consequent to getting the publication printed and published abroad;

(e) whether Government propose to bring out the publication indigenously; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The inflight magazine "Swagat" of Indian Airlines is printed and published by a firm named M/s Media Transasia Ltd. incorporated in Hongkong, owned by a non-resident Indian.

(b) No amount is paid by Indian Airlines for bringing out the publication.

(c) Under the agreement, the said publisher provides every month 60,000 copies of the inflight magazine free of cost to Indian Airlines for placement on board its flights for the benefit of passengers. The publisher meets the cost of publication through the revenue earned from advertisements in the "Swagat".

(d) There is no outflow of foreign exchange.

(e) and (f) So far no Indian Party could offer such attractive terms and quality as M/s Media Transasia Ltd. Besides, the agreement with the said publishers will expire only in May, 1993.

Hike in Electricity Meter Rent by DESU

*383. SHRI MANORANJAN SUR:

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DESU had increased the electricity meter rent by 300 per cent from April, 1989;

(b) whether the Administrator of Delhi Municipal Corporation passed an order withdrawing the hike in May, 1990;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether DESU is still charging meter rent as raised in 1989 and has not carried out the order of MCD; and