

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

Damage of Air India Boeing 747s

*126. SHRI R. GUNDU RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Air India Boeing 747s were damaged in the hangars recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the loss suffered in each case; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent similar accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Air-India aircraft VT-EPW suffered minor damage on 2-2-1991 and 5-2-1991 while aircraft VT-EPE suffered minor damage on 5-2-1991.

(b) and (c) These occurred due to inadvertent lack of judgement/lack of communication among concerned staff. Air-India has taken adequate steps to avoid recurrence. The losses are:—

1. VT-EPW

1st incident : Rs. 3,316 -

2nd incident : Rs. 18,897 -

2. VT-EPE : Rs. 75,493 -

Retrenchment of Employees in Coal Companies

*127. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has advised retrenchment of 50,000 employees in public sector coal companies;

(b) if so, whether this demand is connected with any loan to be taken from the World Bank; and

(c) the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI):

(a) to (c) Following on-going coal projects are under implementation with World Bank assistance:—

	Capacity (m.t.p.a.)	Loan amount (US \$ million)
1. Block-II OCP	2.5	57.7
2. Dudhichua	5.0	109.00
3. Gevra	10.0	65.2
4. Sonepur Bazari	3.0	114.8

A three member World Bank team was in India during January-February, 1991 for review of the progress of on-going projects. This team during their meetings (in Coal India Ltd. and Department of Coal) had discussed various issues related to coal projects. One of the points discussed was the ways and means to improve financial performance of Coal Sector. During discussions the modalities of redeployment of surplus workers from mines that are closed down due to exhaustion of reserves and reduction in unproductive manpower with a view to improving output per man-shift were also discussed.

These points were discussed generally and neither any figure about excess number of workers was mentioned nor this was posed as conditionality to any loan sought from the World Bank. The World Bank has not written to Department of Coal anything about this matter.

[Translation]

Privatisation of the Vayudoot Service

*128. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the Vayudoot air service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to tackle the financial crisis faced by the Vayudoot?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) to (c) Government is considering various options regarding the future set up of Vayudoot Limited. No final decision has yet been taken in this matter.

[*English*]

Safety Measures in Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.

129 SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the news-item captioned "Gallantary awards for CISF men mooted" appearing in the 'Indian Express' (Bombay Edition) dated November 10, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the Government are considering enhancement of relief amount given to CISF personnel so as to make it equivalent to the relief being given to the employees of the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter and the time-bound programme drawn up for the implementation of the decision;

(c) whether safety measures were taken and medical help provided by the IPCL; and

(d) if not, the action taken proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) IPCL has already announced ex-gratia payment of Rs. 1 lakh to the next of kin of all those including CISF personnel, who died in the Negothane accident and Rs. 50,000 to each injured person.

(c) and (d) Immediate medical attention was given to all those affected in the accident. One CISF employee is still undergoing treatment in Bombay. The medical treatment expenses are being met by IPCL. Action is already in hand to strengthen the safety measures.

Shortage of Petroleum Products in Karnataka

*130. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of petroleum products in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The availability position of petroleum products in Karnataka is comfortable. However, reports have been received about some shortage of High Speed Diesel.

(b) and (c) HSD supplies to retail outlets throughout the country are presently being maintained at the same level as in the corresponding period of the previous year. This restriction on HSD releases has resulted in some shortages in different parts of the country, including Karnataka. The position is being monitored closely to ensure, to the extent possible, adequate availability of petroleum products throughout the country.

Setting up of Super Thermal Power Station at Hospet in Karnataka

*131. SHRI H. C. SRIKANTAJAH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Super Thermal Power Plant at Hospet in Karnataka;