

away some arms and ammunition besides the belongings of the ambushed personnel.

(c) Security measures have been tightened. Combing Operations in the area have been taken up and strict vigil is being maintained.

"Air Pollution Due to Lead"

*18. SHRI P. MANIK REDDY : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that addition of lead is the main cause of air pollution; and

(b) whether Government propose to follow USA example and stop use of lead and switch over to power alcohol?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Addition of lead in petrol beyond a certain limit is one of the causes of air pollution.

(b) No, Sir. Switching over to power alcohol is not under consideration in the near future.

Air Services between Delhi and Raipur

*19. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide better air services between Delhi and other places ; and

(b) if so, the details of the air services provided at present and proposed to be provided in near future between Delhi and Raipur in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) It is the constant endeavour of the Airline to improve its services through measures which in-

clude, inter-alia, introduction of new services, augmentation of capacity on existing routes, introduction of better aircraft and provision of more efficient ground and inflight services.

(b) Raipur is linked with Bhopal by a daily Avro flight which operates on the route Bhopal/Jabalpur/Raipur and back. A daily Boeing 737 service on the route Delhi/Gwalior/Bhopal/Indore/Bombay provides a very convenient connection for passengers destined to Delhi/Raipur. In addition, Indian Airlines is operating a twice weekly Boeing 737 service on the route Delhi/Varanasi/Raipur and back. The present capacity to and from Raipur adequately meets the traffic demand and it is not proposed to effect any changes in the services for the present.

Plan and Facilities to Attract Tourists from Foreign Countries to Ashoka group of Hotels

*20. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed a new plan alongwith some facilities recently to attract more tourists from foreign countries to stay in the Ashoka Group of hotels of ITDC ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard. THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). With a view attracting more tourists from foreign countries to stay in the Ashok Group of hotels, ITDC has recently entered into a Marketing and Reservation agreement with other Hotel Representatives (OHR) of Hong Kong. This agreement provides ITDC the benefit of marketing and reservation facilities with the help of 15 offices of O.H.O.R. located in 11 countries. Under this agreement, OHR, which also represents major hotel chains world-wide, will make sales calls on behalf of ITDC and provide the reservation infrastructure to bring business to ITDC hotels.