

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH):**

(a) and (b). Foreign exchange earnings from tourists are estimated at Rs. 29.97 crores for the period January-September, 1971 as compared to estimated earnings of Rs. 27.69 crores during the corresponding period in 1970. The figures of tourist arrivals this year so far show an increase over the corresponding figures for last year. It is probable that but for apprehensions regarding conditions in the sub-continent the results would have been better.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. The report is based on an analysis of the trends of tourist arrivals during the first half of the current year prepared by the Statistics & Research Unit of the Department of Tourism. These are marginal fluctuations due, perhaps, not only to Bangla Desh development but also the economic recession affecting tourist generating countries.

**Achievement of self-sufficiency in petroleum refining.**

\*431 SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what steps are being taking to reach the goal of self-sufficiency in the field of petroleum refining and

(b) how long India propose to continue import of refined products ?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) :**

(a) and (b). The country is by & larger self-sufficient in refining capacity for the last three years, except for superior kerosene and furnace oil mainly. The refining capacity is being progressively expanded to meet the growth in demand for petroleum products. It is not always possible to strictly match production with the demand. Certain surpluses and deficits are invariably thrown up and have to be made good by imports or exports, as may be necessary. Complete self-sufficiency in refining capacity is likely to be reached by 1976 with the commissioning of the refineries now being planned. Measures are also being taken to curb to the extent possible the consumption of petroleum products.

**Supply of coal and fuel oil to Bihar**

\*435. SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Bihar have complained about Indian Oil Co., and N.C.D.C. going back upon their commitments to meet the coal and fuel oil requirements of the State's biggest thermal plants at Barauni and Patratu; and

(b) whether there have been breakdowns in operations in both these plants as a result of failure of I.O.C. and N.C.D.C. to fulfil their commitments ?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) :**

(a) and (b) There have been no failures in the supply of low sulphur heavy stock and light diesel oil to the Barauni and Patratu Thermal Power Stations respectively due to any failure on the part of the Indian Oil Corporation. These two products have been available at the refinery to the full extent. However, supplies could not reach the Patratu Thermal Station owing to breaches of rail track and other transport problems. There was no hold up in supplies to Barauni Thermal Station. The position regarding coal supply by N.C.D.C. is being ascertained and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**विदेशी पूंजी निवेश में कमी**

\*436, श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री : क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पिछले 2-3 वर्षों में विदेशी पूंजी निवेश की मात्रा बहुत घट गयी है;

(ख) क्या चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में 300 करोड़ रुपये का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था परन्तु प्रति वर्ष केवल दस से बारह करोड़ रुपये तक की विदेशी पूंजी भारत आ रही है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इस गिरावट के कारण क्या हैं और इन दिनों में सुधार करने के लिये सरकार क्या उपाय सोच रही है ?