

MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The frequency of Indian Airlines services on Bombay-Rajkot-Bombay and Bombay-Jamnagar-Bhuj-Bombay sectors was reduced and Delhi-Udaipur-Rajkot service was withdrawn.

(b) Bombay-Rajkot and Bombay-Jamnagar-Bhuj Sectors have sufficient traffic to make operations economically viable.

(c) Restoration of the withdrawn frequency will depend upon the availability of sufficient capacity after the resumption of A-320 operations.

Second Oil Terminal at Bombay High

29. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of starting of the second oil terminal at Bombay High;

(b) whether a branch will be provided from the terminus to backward region of Marathwada and Vidharbha; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the future plans of his Ministry to set up gas-based industries in Marathwada?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Government has not so far received any proposal for 2nd terminal for evacuating oil and gas produced from Bombay Offshore area. However, depending upon availability of additional crude oil and gas from Bombay offshore and necessity of a second terminal, such a proposal would be considered at the appropriate time.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Linking of each district of Maharashtra by Air

30. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
SHRI KISANRAO BABURAO BANKHELE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts in Maharashtra which have not been connected by air service so far with its capital;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide air link to each district with the State Capital during 1990-91;

(c) if so, the details in regard thereto; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Out of the 30 districts in the State of Maharashtra, the following districts are not having airlinks;

Ahmednagar, Amravati, Bhandara, Bhir, Buldana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Garhchiroli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Raigarh, Sangli, Satara, Sindudurga, Thane, Tarbhana, Wardha, Yavatmala.

Vayudoot services to Ratrangiri, Sholapur, Nasik and Osmanabad are at present temporarily suspended due to shortage of aircraft capacity.

(b) to (d). Whereas Indian Airlines has no plans to airlink any new stations, Vayudoot has identified the following stations for airlink in its future plans:—

Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Latur, Amravati and Sangli. The rest of the districts neither

have airports suitable for operations by aircraft IA/Vayudoot nor have any airport at all. There are no plans to take up construction of airport at each district headquarters.

Streamlining of Purchase System of Cast Iron Sleeper Plates

31. PROF. VIJAYKUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that previously cast-iron sleepers were purchased by Open Tender System but now this system has been changed;

(b) if so, the details of the changed system and the reasons for the same;

(c) whether any complaints of malpractices followed by Limited tenders regarding supply of cast-iron sleeper plates to the Railways have been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years (year-wise) and the action taken thereon; and

(e) whether Government propose to review the position to streamline the correct procedure with a view to eliminate the irregularities and malpractices in the supply of the cast-iron sleepers to the Railways?

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

(b) Only approved parties having requisite facilities/ established manufacturers are allowed to participate in Limited Tender.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir, from two persons who have not given their designations or addresses to make further enquiries from them.

(e) There is no proposal at present to

review the policy of procurement of cast-iron sleeper plates.

Stagnation in Khadi Industry

32. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of khadi in value during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed by Government to increase the production and time bound programme for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) The production of khadi during the last three years has been as under.

	<i>Rs. in Crores</i>
1986-87	218.06
1987-88	227.51
1988-89	235.35

(b) To increase the production of khadi in the coming years, the following steps have been taken/proposed to be taken.

(i) Loans for khadi advanced by the KVIC (obtained from budgetary support) are free of interest.

(ii) Rebate on various varieties of khadi are available on the retail sales.

(iii) Exemption from excise.

(iv) KVIC provides improved version of NMC (New Model Charkha).

(v) Provision of technical expertise.