

Operation of Air Private Taxis

1002. SHRI MENTAY PADMA-NABHAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the sectors where private air taxis have been permitted;
- (b) the sectors where such taxis are actually operating; and
- (c) the impact of such services on profitability of Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Private Air Taxi operators are free to operate to all airports in the country which are open to scheduled operations.

(b) Sectors operated by private air taxis operators vary from time to time. Some examples of the sectors actually operated by them are Madras-Coimbatore-Bombay, Bombay-Bangalore, Bombay-Cochin, Ban-galore-Mangalore, Delhi - Bombay, Delhi-Lucknow-Varanasi and Banga-lore-Goa.

(c) There has been no impact of such services on the profitability of Indian Airlines.

Tender evaluation of norms of ONGC

1003. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH
HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that parties involved in offshore oil drilling are pressurising ONGC to change the tender evaluation norms;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Export of Coal

1004. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state: ;

(a) whether Government propose to boost the export of coal to earn foreign exchange;

(b) if so, whether any fresh agreement with foreign countries has been signed recently to export coal;

(c) whether the export of coal will affect the indigenous requirement of coal for steel and power sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) steps taken by Government to meet the requirement of coal for steel and power sectors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Coal India Ltd. have agreed to make available up to 1 million tonnes of coal for export during 1991-92.

(b) As per information given by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, contracts have been concluded with buyers from Nepal for sale of 1,11,200 tonnes of coal.

(c) and (d) Actual export of coal will depend not only on availability of coal but also on conclusion of mutually acceptable contracts and availability of infrastructure like railway wagons and port facilities. Even if the entire quantity of one million tonnes was exported, it will form less than 0.5 per cent of the annual production programme of 228 million tonnes of coal and is not likely to affect the coal availability to steel and power sector. - -

(e) Instructions have been issued that the requirements of core sector including power and steel must be

met on priority and coal companywise targets have been fixed which are being regularly monitored.

Pending Thermal Power Projects of West Bengal

1005. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from Government of West Bengal to set up Balagarh and Sagardighi thermal power projects;

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon; and

(c) what is the authority that is going to fund these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir. The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (WBPDC) had submitted in February, 1991 the project reports for setting up Murshidabad (Sagardighi) Thermal Power Project (4x500 MW) and Balagarh Thermal Power Project (3x250 MW) respectively.

(b) and (c) the project report are under examination in the Central Electricity Authority.

Supply of Coal to Industry

1006. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has not made any allocation of coal to industry for a period of over a month which has severely hit the industry as reported in the "Indian Express" of the 11th July, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to inquire into the matter in depth; and

(d) if so, by when adequate quantum of coal will be supplied to the industrial sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGAUDAR): (a) No, Sir. According to Coal India Limited they supplied 2.77 million tonnes of coal to industries other than steel, cement and fertilizers during June, 1991.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Coal India Ltd. have been continuously making efforts to improve production and railway loading to provide adequate supply of coal to consumers. However due to transport bottlenecks it is not always possible to reach coal to the consumers even when adequate coal is available at the pitheads with the coal companies.

पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र में वायुदूत की सेवाएं

1007. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र में वायुदूत की सेवाएं बहुत अनियमित हैं;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि वायुदूत द्वारा न तो उड़ानों के दौरान और न ही उड़ानों में विलंब होने पर, इसके यात्रियों को कोई अल्पाहार आदि उपलब्ध कराया जाता है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार इन सेवाओं को बेहतर बनाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ;

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया) : (क) उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र में वायुदूत की सेवाएं खराब मौसम और तकनीकी खराबियों के कारण कुछ-कुछ अनियमित सी रही हैं ।

(ख) और (ग) उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र में परिचालन के लिए विमानों की उपलब्धता में सुधार करने के लिए कदम उठाये गये हैं । जहां तक अल्पाहार दिये जाने का