

(b) If so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard?

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Reports of shortages of LPG|Petrol|Diesel etc. in Delhi|UP/Gujarat and other parts of the country have been received in the last 3-4 months.

(b) Shortages have arisen partly on account of law and order situations which have hampered movement of petroleum products and partly due to restrictions in supplies which have been introduced to curb the consumption of petroleum products.

(c) In respect of LPG, bottling plants have been working on extended hours and holidays to increase production of filled cylinders. Arrangements have been made for priority supplies of diesel for movement of LPG trucks and addl. bulk|tank lorries have been pressed into service. The availability position has improved from Dec. 1990 as a result of these steps.

The cuts imposed on release of HSD and MS through retail outlets have been withdrawn from November 26, 1990 and November 7, 1990 respectively. HSD releases through retail outlets are now being made at the same level as in the corresponding period of the previous year, while M/s releases are being made by providing a growth of 4 per cent over releases in the previous year.

The availability position has improved as a result of these steps.

Decline in the production of crude oil

300. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI BEKAL UTAHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of crude oil produced in the country during the last 5 years year-wise;

(b) whether there has been steady decrease in production; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government are taking to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The quantity of crude oil produced in the country during last five years year-wise is given below:

Year	Qty. (Million Tonnes)
1985-86	30.17
1986-87	30.48
1987-88	30.36
1988-89	32.04
1989-90	34.09

(b) As can be seen from the figures above, there has not been any steady decrease in production.

(c) Does not arise.

Losses incurred by Vayudoot

301. SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the accumulated losses of Vayudoot as on data;

(b) what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to discontinue all financial assistance to Vayudoot; and

(d) whether Government are also considering winding up this feeder air lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Since its inception in 1981, the accumulated losses of Vayudoot until now (December, 1990) are estimated to be about Rs.

100 crores. Vayudoot is currently incurring losses at about Rs. 2.70 crores per month.

(b) The main reasons for the losses are: aged and uneconomic fleet; short haul operations, unremunerative fare structure, excessive expansion of the operations and overstaffing.

(c) There is hardly any scope for Government providing budget support or subsidy to organisations in the civil aviation sector. It is imperative that they operate on commercial principles and generate resources of their own to finance their operations and expansion.

(d) No, Sir.

Proposal to purchase power from Nepal

302. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA
PATIL:

KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI
KENIA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to purchase surplus power from Nepal; if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(b) what is outcome of recent talks between Prime Minister of India and Nepal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE): (a) During the 1st Meeting of the Indo-Nepal Sub-Commission on Water Resources held in December, 1938, Nepal indicated possibilities of additional power supply to India upto 200 MW from their future projects, India had agreed to absorb this additional power subject to agreement on tariff and operational aspects.

(b) During the recent talks between the Prime Ministers of India and Nepal it was agreed in principle by India to purchase surplus power from Nepalese hydroelectric projects subject to negotiations and agreement on prices.

Training plan for Pilots

303. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pilots of Indian Airlines are not happy with the new training plan to make them available for Airbus-300 instead of Airbus-320; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The movement of seventeen P2 pilots from A-320 to A-300 is in accordance with the career Profession Pattern settled between the Indian Commercial Pilots Association and the management of the Indian Airlines.

Clearance to Jodhpur Solar Power Plant

304. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jodhpur Solar Power Plant has not been cleared by the Central Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) and (b) The proposal to set up a solar power plant near Jodhpur can be taken up for implementation after it is cleared from the techno-economic angle and all necessary inputs have been tied up.

Setting up of new power projects in West Bengal

305. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that West Bengal Government has been repeatedly requesting the Central Government to set up