

Structural pattern of excise duty levied on match industries

1554. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the structural pattern of excise duty levied on match industries set up in mechanised, band-made (medium scale) and hand-made (small) sectors;

(b) whether Government are aware that due to the anomaly in the levy of excise duty the hand-made (medium-scale) match industries suffer to the extent of extinction;

(c) whether Government have received representations from the owners of medium-sized match industries of Kamraj district of Tamil Nadu in this behalf;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to help them; and

(e) whether Government have any proposal to change the structural pattern of levy of excise duty among different sectors of match industry to save such units from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The present excise duty structure on match industry is as given below:—

Sector	Basic Excise duty rate (per 100 boxes)
Mechanised	Rs. 3.15
Semi-mechanised	Rs. 2.10
Non-mechanised	Rs. 1.75
Cottage	Rs. 0.75

(b) to (e) The above duty rates have been fixed taking into account the interests of various sectors of match industry including handmade sector. The Government had received representations requesting for reduction in excise duty on matches from various sectors of match industry. These representations were

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considered and it was decided not to alter the prevailing duty rates after taking into account the interest of all the sectors of match industry.

Indigenous Production of Petroleum Products

1555. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is stagnation in the growth of indigenous production of petroleum products;

(b) if so, what are the causes for such stagnation;

(c) whether the indigenous production is keeping pace with the growth of consumption of petroleum products;

(d) whether any research has been made to find out indigenous alternative fuels; and

(e) if so, what are the details of such research programmes?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) Even though the indigenous production of petroleum products has been going up, the demand has been growing at a comparatively higher pace. The figures for the last 3 years are given below:

(In Million tonnes)	
Petroleum products	1986-87
Indigenous products	42.76
Consumption	43.66
1987-88	1988-89
44.73	45.70
46.42	49.76

(d) and (e) Efforts to find alternative fuels for transportation project using methanol and diesel in dual fuel mode. The diesel replacement varied between 12 to 18 per cent. Another project has been sanctioned to find out technical viability under actual conditions, Demonstration programmes of battery operated

vehicles has also been undertaken where the battery can be charged at night during off-peak hours by electricity.

Preparation of faulty Electricity Bill in respect of the Residents of CPWD Complex Vasant Vihar New Delhi

1556. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether DESU authorities concerned with Vasant Vihar CPWD Complex have issued electricity bills in favour of the residents of the area without taking any upto-date reading of the consumption and have charged them on an average basis; and

(b) if so, how the services of meter-readers are to be utilised if the consumption bills are to be sent to the consumers on an average basis?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

CGHS Dispensary at Vasant Vihar

1557. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CGHS authorities have requested the Directorate of Estates to place four type III quarters in Vasant Vihar CPWD Complex at their disposal for opening CGHS dispensary in that area; and

(b) whether all the four quarters have been requisitioned for opening of Allopathic dispensary only or any CGHS dispensary of Indian System of Medicines and Homoeopathy is also proposed to be opened in these quarters?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROURAY): (a) and (b) CGHS autho-

rities have requested the Directorate of Estates for allotment of four type III quarters for opening of an allopathic dispensary in Vasant Vihar.

Inventory of spare parts of Indian Airlines

1558. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that whereas every major airlines has an inventory of at least 30 per cent of the spare parts, the Indian Airlines has inventory of only 7 per cent of the spare parts;

(b) whether two A-320 aircrafts, one at Bombay and the other at Delhi are lying in the open for want of spares;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the airports under the control of the National Airports Authority are lacking basic infrastructure and a few airfields do not even have the barest minimum visual approach slope indicators; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps have been taken by Government to remove these shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Upgradation of ground facilities at airports is a continuous process involving substantial capital investment.

Cargo piled up at the International Airports

1559. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge stock of garments cargo has piled up at the international airports in the country;