

to 25%. These provisional duties will come into effect after publication of the finding of the Anti-Dumping Committee.

These duties are provisional. The EC Commission will now make a disclosure of the basis on which it has arrived at its provisional decision.

Government of India propose to pursue the matter with the EC Commission.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

1512. SHRI DATTARAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the length of the National Highways in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the amount sanctioned/released or proposed to be sanctioned/released for the maintenance of the National Highways in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The length of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh is 2519 Kms.

(b) During the current financial year, a tentative provision of Rs. 867.50 lakhs has been made for maintenance and repair of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh, and an amount of Rs. 214 lakhs has been released so far.

[Translation]

FALL OF ROCKET PODS FROM BOMBER AIRCRAFT OVER CHANDIGARH

1513. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :

SHRIMATI RITA VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item that appeared in the Jansatta of July 17, 1991 that two rocket pods fell from a bomber aircraft of the Air Force over Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to review the training and maintenance syllabus to prevent such accidents and losses; and

(f) the other steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two rocket pods accidentally fell off from an IAF aircraft on 16-7-1991 at Chandigarh. One of the pods fell in the rear portion of a house in Sector 11 causing certain damage to the verandah floor and a desert cooler. The second pod fell in an open area outside the boundary wall of a School. There was no other damage or injury.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Court of Inquiry which investigated the incident has indicated that it was most probably caused by the malfunction of the electrical system meant for emergency jettisoning of the pods.

(e) and (f) Review of training content and maintenance procedures with a view to minimising accidents and meeting the operational requirements of the IAF is an ongoing process.

CAG REPORT ON D.T.C.

1514. SHRI MRUTYUNIAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his Report No. 6 (Commercial) of 1990 has adversely commented upon the functioning of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC); and

(b) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government on the issues raised in the Report ?

THE MINISTER FOR SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : Instructions have been issued to D.T.C. to correct the systemic deficiencies

brought out in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and to take steps to avoid the recurrence of such deficiencies.

[English]

CONSUMPTION OF PETROL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

1515. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been stressed on Government Departments to economise consumption of petrol and petroleum products;

(b) if so, whether any assessment. Ministry/Department-wise, has been made about the realistic reduction made in consumption of these products;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure optimum use of petrol and petroleum products, enforce strict control over use of staff cars for office use only, pooling staff cars instead of providing cars to individual officers upto the status of Joint Secretary and equivalent and stop the use of air-conditioned cars by officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued from time to time stressing upon the Ministries/Departments of the Government the need for economising the consumption of petrol/diesel and the measures to be adopted to achieve such economy.

Government had issued instructions in June, 1990 that the consumption of petrol/diesel in Government vehicles including staff cars should be reduced by 20% over the consumption during 1989-90. Instructions were also issued in August, 1990 prohibiting the use of Government vehicles including staff cars except deployment of Government vehicles for emergency and unavoidable operational duties, on Sundays. Orders were issued banning the purchase of vehicles until further orders.

The consumption of petrol/diesel is being continuously monitored on the basis of the monthly reports received from the Ministries/Departments. It is seen from the information received that the consumption of petrol/diesel has reduced in some Government organisations. However, it is not possible to quantify the exact reduction achieved so far.

There is no provision in the Staff Car Rules for earmarking a vehicle exclusively for the use of any individual officer. Instructions have been reiterated that two or more Government officers should travel in the same staff car to the extent possible instead of travelling separately. Instructions have also been issued restraining the use of public sector vehicles by Government officials.

Use of air-conditioned vehicles by Government officials is banned.

PRIVATE BUSES UNDER D.T.C. OPERATION

1516. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation has allowed private buses under its operation to ply on 'Earn and Carry' basis;

(b) the terms of the agreement for private buses operated under D.T.C. during last year; and

(c) the present terms and conditions and when these were negotiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (c) : Private buses are plying under DTC under the 'Earn and keep' Scheme since 1988. Under this arrangement, the buses of private operators are allowed to charge DTC fares and retain the earnings. The private buses are to carry the DTC Pass holding passengers free of charge in their buses for which they are compensated. These operators operate in accordance with the schedule prescribed by DTC, who control and maintain these operations. Whenever any irregularity is detected, the DTC not only