

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>No. of LPG distributorships</i>
5.	Bilaspur	1
6.	Mandi	3
7.	Kulu*	1
8.	Lahulspiti	1
9.	Shimla	1
10.	Solan**	3
11.	Chamba	5
12.	Kinnaur	1
Total		32

In addition,

* LPG facility has been extended to one location as Extension Point.

** LPG facility has been extended to three locations as Extension Points.

[English]

Supply of LPG in Punjab Districts

*379. ~~SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY~~: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been short supply of LPG in Hoshiarpur and other districts of Punjab during the last eight months and consumers are not getting their refills even after two-three weeks of placing the order; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed to remove the shortage and delay in LPG supply in Punjab especially in Hoshiarpur district?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Sporadic short supply of LPG refills was reported in certain locations of Punjab on account of constraints in the bulk availability of LPG, apart from transportation problems and operational difficulties. Refill supplies are being augmented by stepping up transportation from the bottling plants, and extending the working hours of the distributorships. The situation is being closely monitored to ensure regular supplies to the consumers.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Railway Wagons/Coaches

*380. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government so far to fulfil the announcement made during the period 1977 to 1979 regarding manufacturing of railway wagons in Jodhpur;

(b) whether this scheme has been discontinued; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Manufacture of Narrow Gauge Railway Wagons is being done at Jodhpur and during the last 5 years, 70 units have been manufactured.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Frequency of Vidarbha Express

*381. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal for increasing the

frequency of Vidarbha Express from Nagpur to Bombay from tri-weekly to daily basis in view of increasing need;

(b) if so, when the proposal is likely to be cleared;

(c) the steps being taken to replace old compartments of Vidarbha Express and provide better facilities on this train; and

(d) the details of measures taken/proposed during the current year to provide A.C. II Class and other facilities to Maharashtra Express?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.
(c) The replacement of old coaches on age-cum-condition basis is an ongoing process. Coaches in use have all the standard passenger amenities.

(d) Presently there is no proposal to provide A.C. 2-tier coach by Maharashtra Express.

Printing of "Swagat" Publication by Indian Airlines

*382. SHRI G. M. BANAT-WALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inflight magazine "Swagat" of the Indian Airlines is printed and published by a foreign firm;

(b) if so, the amount paid for bringing out the publication;

(c) the terms of agreement with the firm;

(d) the amount of outflow of foreign exchange consequent to getting the publication printed and published abroad;

(e) whether Government propose to bring out the publication indigenously; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The inflight magazine "Swagat" of Indian Airlines is printed and published by a firm named M/s Media Transasia Ltd. incorporated in Hongkong, owned by a non-resident Indian.

(b) No amount is paid by Indian Airlines for bringing out the publication.

(c) Under the agreement, the said publisher provides every month 60,000 copies of the inflight magazine free of cost to Indian Airlines for placement on board its flights for the benefit of passengers. The publisher meets the cost of publication through the revenue earned from advertisements in the "Swagat".

(d) There is no outflow of foreign exchange.

(e) and (f) So far no Indian Party could offer such attractive terms and quality as M/s Media Transasia Ltd. Besides, the agreement with the said publishers will expire only in May, 1993.

Hike in Electricity Meter Rent by DESU

*383. SHRI MANORANJAN SUR:

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DESU had increased the electricity meter rent by 300 per cent from April, 1989;

(b) whether the Administrator of Delhi Municipal Corporation passed an order withdrawing the hike in May, 1990;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether DESU is still charging meter rent as raised in 1989 and has not carried out the order of MCD; and