

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). By the end of VII Plan, an irrigation potential of 78.97 m. ha. is anticipated to have been created of which 70.64 m. ha. utilised, which is about 88.2%.

(d) and (e). Because of the time taken by farmers in switching over from traditional rainfed cultivation to irrigated farming, lack of on-farm developmental works in the canal command areas due to financial constraints, the potential created is not immediately utilised. However, efforts are being made by the Government through Command Area Development Programme operated since 1974-75 in narrowing down the gap between creation and utilisation of irrigation potential.

DTC Fleet

1322. SHRI PHOOLCHAND VERMA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI GANGA CHARAN
LODHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of buses in the D.T.C. fleet in November, 1990;

(b) whether these buses are sufficient to cope with the increasing traffic;

(c) if not, the number of additional buses required; and

(d) whether private buses will be allowed to operate to meet the transport needs of the people?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) The total number was 4977 inclusive of those owned by private operators.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Working Group on Road transport for Eighth Plan had projected the total requirement as 7950 buses in 1990-91.

(d) More private operators have not been coming forward to operate under the control of DTC because of the uneconomic fare structure. The Delhi Administration is also not granting stage carriage permits for independent operation by private operators.

Construction of Yamuna Bridge Near ISBT, Delhi

1323. SHRI PHOOLCHAND VERMA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revised date of completion of construction of the bridge over Yamuna near Inter-State Bus Terminal has been further revised due to slow progress of construction work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cost of construction has escalated due to delay in the completion of the bridge; and

(d) if so, the original and the revised estimated cost of construction of the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) No, Sir.