

(d) the time by which the above proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN). (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

ASH Handling System in NLC

1848. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of specifications fixed by the Tender Advisory Committee in ash handling system for awarding contracts by Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC):

(b) whether these specifications were adhered to while awarding such contracts by the Corporation during the last three years.

(c) if so, the reasons for losses suffered by the Corporation as a result of awarding the ash handling contracts and

(d) the steps taken to check such recurrences?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Specifications are not fixed by Tender Advisory Committee. Specifications for all packages for Neyveli Thermal Power Station II, Stage II, to which this question relates, have been prepared by the consultants appointed for the project.

The following specifications have been laid down for design, construction and erection of the system.

(i) It has been envisaged that though the lignite consumption per unit at MCR will be 207 T/hr, the hydro sluicing system design parameter shall be taken as 262 T/hr.

(ii) Ash content in the lignite to be provided for: 12%. Ash generation ratio per unit: 31.5 T/hr.

(iii) The ratio of ash to fly ash is prescribed at 20%:80% i.e. in the ratio of 0.3 T/hr:25.2 T/hr. However, the fly ash equipment shall be designed in the ratio of 10%:90%.

(b) This is a one time requirement for the project and the specifications were unit related.

Following changes were made with regard to the specifications and make of certain equipment for various reasons:

(i) The thickness of the ash slurry pipes was originally specified to be of 355 mm OD and 9.52 mm. However, M/s. SAIL, who are suppliers of the pipe, which are bought out items, expressed their inability to manufacture pipes of these specifications. Therefore, both the bidders were asked, while calling for revised price bids, to quote for ash slurry pipes of 7.14 mm thickness and 355 mm OD.

(ii) The original specifications for the ash water pumps provided for hardness of 350 BHN. The successful bidder after consulting reputed pump manufacturers in India informed NLC that water pumps with a hardness of 350 BHN are not manufactured in India and requested for a change to BHN 250-300. NLC approved the change after clearance by the consultants. This change resulted in a reduction of price by Rs. 1,29,906.76.

(iii) The originally approved make for the plug valve was that of DEZURICK valve. In view of the technical deficiency of the DEZURICK valve, at the request of the successful bidder, the make was changed to AU-DCO valve. The cost of AU-DCO valve was Rs. 1,53,959 as compared to Rs. 72,751 for DEZURICK valve. However,

while agreeing to the change it was specified by NLC and confirmed by the suppliers, that no extra payment shall be made towards the extra cost of the AUDCO valves.

- (iv) Another change which was made pertains to scope of the following works: civil works, erection price and supply of equipment. Initially, "civil works" for which the successful bidder had quoted a lumpsum price of Rs. 58.09 lakhs, included the price for supply of pipe bridge and pipe supports in structural steel, grouting and erection of pipe bridges. Subsequently, however, the work relating to supply and erection of pipe bridge and pipe supports were transferred from "civil works" to "equipment supply" and "erection". As a result, the price under "civil works" was reduced by Rs. 28.60 lakhs and re-allocated to "supply of equipment" (Rs. 23 lakhs) and "erection" (Rs. 5.60 lakhs). This was simply a re-allocation of price and did not affect the contract price in any way.

- (v) A rebate of Rs. 1.30 lakhs has been offered by the successful bidder towards reduction in hardness of BHN of water pumps and certain spares.

(c) No losses have been suffered by the NLC as a result of awarding the ash handling contracts.

(d) Since no losses were suffered by the Corporation, the question does not arise.

Vayudoot Service between Madras and Neyveli

1849. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot service between Madras and Neyveli has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when it is likely to be resumed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) For commercial and operational reasons, Vayudoot has been forced to reduce its network drastically in various States of the country. There is no proposal to extend the services of Vayudoot.

Gas based Power Plant at Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu

1850. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a gas based power station at Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu utilising the gas found in the Cauvery basin;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been made in this regard; and

(c) if so, when the construction work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) had forwarded in October, 1988 a pre-feasibility report for a gas based combined cycle gas turbine plant of 196 MW at Thiya-gavalli village, 8 Km south of Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu based on gas from Cauveri basin. The proposal was not pursued since the gas linkage for this project was not obtained by TNEB. Subsequently the TNEB have proposed a 600 MW Plant at Pillaiyur-nallur in Thanjavur district. This project has received techno-economic clearance from CEA in May, 1991 for setting up a 300 MW capacity power plant in phase-I using gas in the Cauvery basin