

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). To meet the increasing demand of electricity. Additional generation capacity is inducted both in the State and the Central Sectors. Even after implementation of the Seventh Plan capacity addition programme of 22,245 MW, the 13th Electric Power Survey of India has estimated an energy deficit of about 6% in the country at the end of the Seventh Plan period. To reduce this shortage, new power project of a capacity of about 38,000 MW have been identified for giving benefits in the Eighth Plan. The energy shortage by the end of Eighth Plan is anticipated to be about 1.9%

(c) and (d). It is tentatively envisaged to implement thermal and hydro projects yielding capacity benefits of about 532 MW in Kerala in the State Sector during the Eighth Plan period. In addition, it is proposed to take up the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project (2x210 MW) in the Central Sector, for benefits in the Eighth Plan period.

Vayudoot Service for Coimbatore and Trivandrum

81. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for a Vayudoot service connecting Coimbatore and Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The aircraft capacity at present available with Vayudoot is fully stretched and does not offer scope for providing new

airlinks. Vayudoot as such, has no immediate plans for providing direct airlink between Coimbatore and Trivandrum.

New Satellite Township at Mangalpur, West Bengal

82. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Ltd., have raised an objection to the Plan to set up a new satellite township at Mangalpur in Raniganj in the district of Burdwan, West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The land in Mangalpur, where the Government of West Bengal proposes to set up a new satellite township, contains huge reserves of high quality coal to the extent of 71 million tonnes. In case, township is allowed to be set up on this land, valuable coal would be locked up to the detriment of the economy of the State and the Country. The Eastern Coalfields Limited has, therefore, pleaded for setting up of the township on some other alternative land.

New Airbus A-320 services on Delhi-Bagdogra Route

83. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce Airbus A-320 on Delhi-Bagdogra route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOUR-