

(c) whether environmental clearance has been given to the said project?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). A feasibility report in respect of the installation of a Thermal Power Station (2 X 500 MW) at Visakhapatnam, is under consideration in the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the various appraising agencies. The proposal could be techno-economically appraised by the CEA after all the essential inputs have been tied up and requisite clearances have been obtained by the State authorities. Unit-1 (500 MW) of the proposed station is tentatively planned to give benefits in the 8th Plan (1994-95).

(c) No, Sir.

#### **Air Freight on Vegetables to Gulf Countries**

**2381. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:  
SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the freight charges on vegetables and fruits to gulf countries and other places have been increased recently by Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the effect of increased freight charges on the vegetable export from India; and

(d) whether Government propose to

reconsider the hike?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The rates have been increased by 30% with effect from 15.3.90.

(b) to (d). The mandatory rates for export of vegetables were introduced in 1978 and since then the rates had undergone limited increases. The increase during the last 13 years have not kept pace with increase in operation cost. The value of rupee with respect to SDRs has gone down by about 73.4% during last five years. The increase of 30% in the freight rates which has become effective 15th March 1990 would be absorbed by the trade.

#### **Projected Goods and Passenger Traffic**

**2382. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have made any assessment about the increase in passenger and goods traffic in 1990-91 and by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is given below:

#### **STATEMENT**

(b) Estimates of passenger and goods traffic for the current year viz., 1989-90 and 1990-91 and 2000 A.D. are given below.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Passenger Traffic (in billion passenger km)</b>	<b>Goods Traffic (in billion tonne km)</b>
<b>1989-90</b> 277.89	239.71	
<b>1990-91</b> 286.22	249.74	
<b>2000 A.D.</b>	415-440	400