

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by what time it is likely to be completed and the expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS).

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 43 Km long new BG line is being constructed between Alleppey and Kayankulam at an estimated cost of Rs. 3907.08 lakhs. The work is likely to be completed during 1991-92.

Electrification of Palghat-Ernakulam and Ernakulam-Trivandrum Sections

1521. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to electrify the Palghat-Ernakulam and Ernakulam-Trivandrum Sections; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vayudoot Service in Kerala

1522. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of towns in Kerala covered by the Vayudoot services at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend this service to more areas in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIA-

TION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Vayudoot is operating scheduled services to Cochin and Trivandrum.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Kayankulam Thermal Power Plant

1523. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the Kayankulam Thermal Power Plant Project stands at present;

(b) whether there has been any slowing down of the work;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by what time the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE):

(a) to (c) The feasibility report for the Kayankulam STPP (Stage-I) (2x210 MW) was techno-economically appraised by CEA in January, 1989 for investment approval. The formal environment clearance for the Project has not been received. Action has already been initiated for obtaining investment approval for the Project after clearance by Public Investment Board (PIB) in November, 1990.

Pending investment approval of the Project, NTPC can incur advance expenditure on new projects to the extent of Rs. 5 crores as per delegated powers. Therefore, the work could be started in full swing only after investment approval.

(d) The first 210 MW Unit of the project is expected to be commissioned in 48 months from the date of signing of the supply contract and the second unit, six months thereafter.