

Cost of Coal realised from U.P. Electricity Board

869. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount pending with the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board regarding the cost supplied to it from the various mines during the last three years; and

(b) the reasons for non-payment of dues and the steps being taken to realise the dues from the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) The total amount due from Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board to Coal India Ltd. for coal supplies as at the beginning of last three financial years is as under:

	(Rs. in crores)
	Total amount
As on	
1.4.88	183.16
1.4.89	388.56
1.4.90	600.96
1.11.90	503.92

(b) The main reason for non-payment of dues by UPSEB is financial constraints faced by them.

Steps being taken to realise the outstanding dues include:

- (i) Regular follow up action by CIL and its subsidiaries to realise the outstanding dues from State Electricity Board.

- (ii) All State Electricity Boards were advised to open Letter of Credit in favour of coal companies to cover future supplies. But response from them has so far been poor. Therefore, from 1.4.90 a system of linking supplies of coal progressively to advance payment to State Electricity Board having outstanding dues equivalent to two months' bill has been introduced. In case of State Electricity Board defaulting in observing this discipline, coal companies will be free to take coercive steps like curtailing or stopping supplies of coal to the power stations.

New International Airport in Gujarat

870. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI M.M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have carried out any study for locating/constructing a new international airport in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of study report; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) to (c). There is no plan under consideration to construct a new international airport in Gujarat. However, the existing airport at Ahmedabad is being upgraded to cater to international operations. It is proposed to start international flights from Ahmedabad with effect from 26 Jan. 1991.