

rural electrification in Bihar during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of villages electrified in Eastern and Western Champaran districts during the Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, against the target of 12493, Bihar State Electricity Board has electrified 12724 villages during the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90).

(c) The number of villages electrified in East and West Champaran districts during the 7th Plan upto January, 1990 is 280 and 333 respectively.

[English]

Cancellation of Trivandrum-Gulf Flight

8719. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India flights between Trivandrum-Gulf countries have been cancelled several times without prior notice to the passengers;

(b) if so, how many times this cancellation has taken place since 1 January, 1990;

(c) the reasons for the cancellation of these flights; and

(d) the arrangements made for the passengers stay and alternate journey, when the flights are cancelled?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). During the

period 1.1.90 to 1.5.90, only four Air India flights between Trivandrum and Gulf countries were cancelled. Out of the four, one flight was cancelled due to commercial reasons and the other three due to Engineering problems.

(d) Whenever Air India flights are re-scheduled/cancelled, due to unavoidable reasons, passengers are transferred on other flights of Air India or other carriers to minimise inconvenience. Hotel accommodation/meals/refreshments are also provided, whenever, necessary.

Transmission Line from Chandrapur to Ramagundam

8720. SHRI RAJAMOHANA REDDY:
SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO:
SHRI P. NARSA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 400 kw double circuit transmission line from Chandrapur to Ramagundam is being constructed by the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) the time schedule for the completion of this line;

(c) whether the early completion of this line will help Andhra Pradesh in obtaining surplus power from the Western Region during peak hours; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) A 400 KV double circuit transmission line (360 ckt. kms) from Chandrapur to Ramagundam is under execution by the National Thermal Power Corporation as part of the Central Transmission Project-I.

(b) The line is expected to be completed by about January, 1991.

(c) and (d). At present, Andhra Pradesh in Southern Region is connected with Madhya Pradesh in Western Region through a 220 KV double circuit from Lower Sileru (AP) to Basrur (MO). Another 220 KV double circuit inter-connection from Belgaum to Kolhapur between Karnataka in Southern Region and Maharashtra in Western Region is also existing. Transfer of power on these two lines is taking place depending upon availability of power and system conditions. The completion of Chandrapur-Ramgundam line would further strengthen the interconnection between Western and Southern regions and considerably enhance the power transfer capability between the two regions.

EMU Facility from Ahmedabad-Surat-Virar

8721. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to start EMU facility from Ahmedabad-Surat-Virar to ease the difficulties of the commuters; and

(b) if is, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Presently, a survey is in hand to determine the techno-economic feasibility of introduction of EMU services on this section.

[*Translation*]

Closure of Japla Cement Factory

8722. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5000 labourers were ren-

dered unemployed in Baulia quarries in Rohtas district in Bihar due to closure of Japla Cement Factory since 29 September, 1985;

(b) whether Japla Cement factory and Baulia quarries are lying closed despite repeated assurances by Union and State Governments in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to restart them?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). M/s. Sone Valley Portland Cement Company Ltd. has intimated that this factory has been under lock-out from September, 1985. Baulia quarries is part of the company and about 1700 workers at the Baulia quarries have been laid off in January, 1986. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has already approved a scheme for revival of M/s. Sone Valley Portland Cement Company Ltd. on 14th August, 1989. Management of the company is taking further steps for restarting the factory in terms of the revival package drawn up by BIFR.

[*English*]

Gas Based Power Plants in Kerala

8723. SHRI A. CHARLES:
SHRI T. BASHEER:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up gas based power plants in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and locations identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). At pres-