

Clearance for Cogentrix Power Project

865. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the mega-thermal unit of Cogentrix proposed to be set up in Mangalore;

(b) what are the factors delaying the final clearance of the project at the Centre;

(c) whether Government are aware of the implications of both time and project cost over run due to such delays; and

(d) by when Government would give final clearance to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have received the Detailed Project Report and the same is under examination in the CEA.

(b) The following inputs/clearances are required to be obtained by the Company before CEA could consider and accord techno-economic clearance of the project:

(i) Environmental clearance from the Union Ministry of Environment & Forests;

(ii) Firmed up cost and financial package from Government of Karnataka.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Final techno-economic clearance of the project could be considered only after submission of all requisite inputs/clearances by the Company/Government of Karnataka.

Agreement between India and Turkmenistan

866. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) details of agreements signed recently with Turkmenistan and the

amount of credit envisaged from India to that country under these agreements; and

(b) details of joint ventures, if any, expected to be taken up under those agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) During the visit of Prime Minister to Turkmenistan from 19-21 September, 1995 the following Agreements/MOUs/Protocols were concluded between the two Governments:

(i) *Credit Agreements*: Under this Agreement, India has extended a credit of US \$ 10 million to the Government of Turkmenistan for export of Indian capital goods, services and consumer durables from India to Turkmenistan. The credit is on concessional terms and repayable over a period of 12 years, inclusive of grace period of 3 years, except in respect of consumer durables where the repayment period and moratorium are to be 3 years and 1 year respectively.

(ii) *Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investments*: This agreement secures the investments in both countries against nationalisation or expropriation in any manner except for a public purpose, in accordance with law, on a non-discriminatory basis and against fair and equitable compensation and also envisages, inter alia, non-discriminatory compensation for losses owing to civil war, repatriation of investments and returns, subrogation, settlement of disputes, etc.

(iii) *Agreement on the Inter-Governmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation*: This Agreement envisages the setting up of the Joint Commission to promote bilateral cooperation in different functional spheres and lays down the scope of its functioning, the manner and frequency of its meetings and related modalities.

(iv) *Protocol in cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of Republic of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan*: The Protocol envisages regular contacts between the two Ministries at various levels in order to promote political, economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries as well as to facilitate exchange of views on bilateral relations and international problems of mutual interest.

(v) *Memorandum of Trilateral Meeting between Delegation of Turkmenistan, India and the Islamic republic of Iran*: The Memorandum carries forward the process of consultations between the three Governments over developing an Agreement of International Transit Trade.

2. In addition to the above, the Protocol on cooperation in the spheres of culture, Arts, Education, Mass-media and sports concluded between the two Governments in 1992, was extended for a further period of two years i.e. 1995 and 1996.

3. Besides the Credit Agreement of US \$ 10 million signed during PM's visit, India has also extended to Turkmenistan a credit of US \$ 5 million under credit agreement signed between the two Governments in March 1995. This credit is to be used for export of capital goods/project exports and services from India. An amount of US \$ 4.65 million has been approved under the credit to finance an Indo-Turkmen joint venture in Turkmenistan in the pharmaceuticals sector. The second credit of US \$ 10 million will be available once this earlier credit line is fully utilised.

Proposal to make Patna an International Airport

867. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any steps to modernise Patna airport;

(b) whether Government propose to make it an International Airport in view of Bihar being an international Buddhist Centre of pilgrims; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is developing Patna as a model airport. There is no proposal to declare Patna as an international airport. Customs and immigration facilities already exist for international operations. Extension and modification of terminal building, extension of apron to accommodate 3 Boeing-737 and 2 fokker-27, aircraft have been undertaken and these works are expected to be completed by March, 1996. A new Doppler very High Frequency Omni Range (DOVR) and Airport Speech Recorder have been installed at this airport.

एयरलाइन्स द्वारा पूंजी बाजार से धन जुटाया जाना

868. श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या एयर इंडियन एयरलाइन्स और अन्य निजी एयर टैक्सी प्रचालकों ने वर्तमान पूंजी बाजार से धन जुटाने के प्रयास किए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में निर्धारित किए गए लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर लिए जाने की संभावना है;

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो कारणों सहित इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) किन-किन प्रयोजनों हेतु पूंजी बाजार से धन जुटाया जा रहा है?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद) : (क) एयर इंडिया और इंडियन एयरलाइन्स ने पूंजी बाजार से धन जुटाने के कोई प्रयास नहीं किये हैं। निजी एयरलाइनों को इस प्रकार की सूचना सरकार को देना आवश्यक नहीं है।