

Delay in Dankuni Coal Project

1333. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project pertaining to Dankuni Coal Complex, West Bengal has been delayed due to lack of initiative of the management;

(b) whether all the revised schedules for commissioning of project have been violated;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to start work on the project forthwith?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) The commissioning of the Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC) which was originally scheduled for March, 85 was delayed due to various reasons. A committee set up by the Government to examine the matter came to the conclusion that the main reasons for delay were as follows:—

(1) Receipt of design packages from foreign collaborators;

(2) Delay in structural and erection work in the retort section;

(3) Consolidation of filled-up land;

(4) Vendor selection for gas compressors; and

(5) Import of miscellaneous equipment.

DCC went into trial production of gas in June, '89 but commercial production could not commence because of the inability of the Greater Calcutta Gas Supply Corporation (GCGSC) to receive and distribute the gas produced by the plant. DCC and GCGSC have since agreed upon an off-take schedule for the gas produced and on that basis the plant is now being commissioned. Commercial production of gas from the plant is expected by the end of May, 1990.

Additional facilities of Jabalpur Airport

1334. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no additional facilities can be created or renovation done in the present airport at Jabalpur because the said airport does not belong to their department;

(b) if so, whether Government have any plan to build a new airport at Jabalpur; and

(c) if not, how the increasing demands for air travel are proposed to be met?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The Airport belongs to the National Airports Authority. Upgradation of facilities at Jabalpur Airport has not been possible because of certain objections received from Ordnance Depot & Ammunition Factory situated in close proximity to the Airport at Jabalpur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Indian Airlines have handed over HS-748 aircraft and the route to M/s Vayudoot Ltd. who are at present operating six-days-a-week (except Sunday) Dornier service through Jabalpur. Besides, Vayudoot is operating thrice-a-week Avro service on the route Delhi-Allahabad-Jabalpur-Delhi. These services have, however, been suspended temporarily due to scheduling constraints.

Shifting of Category of Rifampicin

1335. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that producers of Rifampicin represented for shifting this drug to Category-II; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?