

expected to be installed in the State. Despite the situation, there will be a gap between the demand supply to power of around 1030 MW according to the estimate prepared by perspective power planning Committee. According to the Committee the demand for power in the State for the years 1995 and 2000 AD would be around 3,411 MW and 4409 MW respectively. Availability of power from the existing capacity is estimated to reach 2309 MW in the year 1995 which will leave a short-fall of 1102 MW in supply.

One way of achieving increased capacity may be greater utilisation of the existing thermal plants and to set-up new Thermal Power Projects. Opening of thermal power plant demands and ensures an adequate supply of coal, although all India production of coal has increased significantly but coal production in West Bengal has remained almost stagnant. Time factor should also be taken into account. Normally, the lead time for a coal based power plant is about 7 to 8 years.

The setting up of nuclear power plants in the State seem to be most powerful choice.

There are very strong considerations for setting up a nuclear power plant in West Bengal. If the power problem of West Bengal is to be solved on a permanent basis, the nuclear power has to be developed in the State in a big way.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, today the House must congratulate our Prime Minister.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It has already been done.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilara): Please convey congratulations to the Prime Minister on behalf of all of us.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwa-

hati): Congratulations should be followed with sweets.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: You should first congratulate then we will give you sweets.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall convey to him.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—Contd.

[English]

(iii) Demand for more facilities to
Railway Commuters of Nagpur
City

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards the tremendous hardships faced by the railway commuters of Nagpur city. Everybody knows that Nagpur is the Central place in India. All the East-West bound and South-North trains pass through the city and vice versa. This important city is divided in two parts by the railway tracks. Railway station and booking windows are on one side. There is only one bridge for the people of old city to come and there is tremendous rush on the bridge as well as on the railway station. Some time back a proposal was sent by the residents wherein it was demanded that the booking window reservation counters should be opened on the other side also so that the rush was minimised. But at that time there was congestion on this side also due to orange market but since this market has been shifted, it is high time that Government should take immediate steps to construct the platform and set up booking counters etc. on the other side also so that the difficulties faced by the commuters are eliminated. I, therefore, request the Minister of Transport that a team of high officials may be sent there to assess the feasibility of the proposals and also expedite the same at the earliest.