

(b) whether appointment/recruitment and promotions to various categories of posts is being made in accordance with the instructions issued by the Government from time to time; and

(c) whether there are still some vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees lying vacant for want of suitable qualified persons and if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) The number of employees belonging to SC and ST category is as under:-

	SC	ST
Group A	1	—
Group B	5	3
Group C	11	6
Group D	8	3

(b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is following the instructions issued by the Govt. of India on the subject from time to time.

(c) There is no vacancy reserved for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees lying vacant for want of suitably qualified persons. However one vacancy of SC in the grade of Asstt. under DR quota has been reported to SSC under Special Rect. Drive.

Conversion of Miraj-Bangalore Line

743. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up the conversion of Miraj-Bangalore

rail line into broad gauge;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted for this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). A preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey was carried out in 1984 and on the basis of the survey report, the project was not found to be viable. Again on persistent demands, the survey report of 1984 was updated in 1989 and even then the proposal was not found to be viable.

Separate Company for Collieries of Orissa

744. SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to open a separate Company for the collieries located in Orissa region;

(b) if so, when it will be opened and the reasons for its delay;

(c) the amount of coal which the new company will raise during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(d) whether the new collieries have been given permission in Orissa to start coal production; and

(e) if so the names thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) and (b). A proposal to form a new coal company for Ib Valley and Talcher coalfields in Orissa and Mand-Raigarh coalfield in Madhya Pradesh with headquarters in Orissa, has been re-

ceived from Coal India Limited. No decision has been taken by the Government on the proposal so far.

(c) The quantity of coal expected to be

raised by the proposed new coal company during the Eighth Five Year Plan, is as under:-

(in million tonnes)

Coalfield	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6
Talcher	8.87	9.31	10.30	11.96	14.28
Ib Valley	5.73	6.22	7.19	8.80	10.93
Mand Raigarh	0.009	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total	14.609	15.54	17.50	20.77	25.22

(d) and (e). Bharatpur OC Project in Talcher coalfield and 4 projects namely Balpahar OC, Lilari OC, Orient No. 3 Mech. UG and Hingir Rampur UG in Ib Valley coalfield have been approved.

Operation of Air-Bus to Calicut

745. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey/study has been made to determine the possibility of operating the Airbus aircraft at Calicut airport;

(b) if so, the details of its findings;

(c) whether any representations have been received by the Government to introduce direct flight from Calicut to the Gulf countries; and

(d) if so, the decision of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A feasibility study to extend this runway by 3,000 feet to make it operational for Airbus 300 aircraft was conducted by M/s RITES in October, 1989. It revealed that an investment of about Rs. 50 crores would be required for the purpose. Considering the high cost involved and the paucity of resources as well as certain operational difficulties, the project could not be undertaken.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to operational and commercial reasons, it is not feasible to introduce direct flights from Calicut to the Gulf countries.

Capacity of Power Plants

746. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: