(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 Madhva 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 FAILWAYS (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 Japia 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 lockout 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-