1. Shri T. N. Chaturvedi
2. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
3. Shri Suresh A. Keswani
4. Dr. M. N.Das
5. Dr. Biplab Dasgupta
6. Shri C. P. Thirunavukkarasu
7. Shri J. Chitharanjan
8. Shri K. Kalavenkata Rao
9. Shri Satishchandra Sitaram Pradhan
10. Shri Jayant Kumar Malhotra

And 20 Members from the Lok Sabha;

That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee;

That the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha;

That in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Select Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman may make; and

That this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that Lok Sabha do join the said Committee and communicate to this House the names of Members to be appointed by Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee."

The question was put and the motion was adopted

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Points arising out of Answer to Starred Question N0.42, given on 1st December, 1999, regarding power shortage

DR. RAJA RAMANNA (Nominated): Madam, I raise a discussion on

the points arising out of the answer given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st December, 1999, to Starred Question 42, regarding power shortage.

Madam, it is not my intention to make remarks against the Government, either the Central Government or any State Government. I want to bring to your attention the very deteriorating situation that exists in the power field.

We are very proud of the fact that from 1950, when we had only 70 megawatts of power, we have gone up to 90,000 megawatts. But that is not something to be proud of just by itself because the mam thing is to see that the power reaches our homes and that it is available at the appropriate voltage and at the appropriate frequency. I recall that in the British days, if the frequency fluctuated, the Government used to pay fine. Those days are gone, and we know that the frequency fluctuations are so large that they can destroy equipments, TV sets and other things inside our houses.

Why has this come about? What is the reason for this somewhat sad story? I do not want to become too technical in this matter because there are many solutions to it. But the political side-effect that will be of interest to Parliament Members is that much of the fluctuations and the non-delivery at the distribution level is due to social reasons. I would like to concentrate on that.

Madam, I recall the hon. Minister two days ago saying that line losses are 26 per cent. That is for the whole of India. I have a list here with me in which the line losses for many South-Asian and East Asian countries are given. In China, the line losses are 6 per cent. That means, it is possible to keep these right down to what is required for running power stations. Why does it go to 26 per cent? I am told, in certain Northern States, the line bsses go up to 48 per cent, 49 per cent and even 50 per cent. Why does it happen? Obviously, there are vested interests in stealing power. I do not know what else to call them than vested interests, in a country where people love to steal. At least this is happening in this country.

Now, the question is, how can we stop it? Can we ever stop it? If we have to stop it, we have to do so in a very firm manner.

Madam, we have been discussing this amongst the scientists, because it is a semi-scientific problem. Many things have been suggested. One is, when power fails, transformers breakdown and people do not know which transformer has broken down. But, in today's modern electricity system,

there are systems whereby, you at the central point, know exactly where it has broken down. But this is not in our system.

At the last stage, when the electricity reaches the domestic areas, we find the man, who comes to our homes to read the meter, does not know how to read and write. With cities becoming as they are now, I am worried whether we can allow a person like him, who is without any uniform or anything else as his identification. I do not know whether a certain amount of discipline like wearing of uniform with an identification badge on can be introduced. This is done in all the other countries. It is a matter of detail, but the fact remains, according to the stuthes made, the meter readings are not satisfactory. The meters are faulty and there are wrong indications. It is on these bases that these losses are calculated. I am told even the calculations are done on very, very old systems. All this simply leads to the conclusion for our adopting a modern technological system which would have the most accurate electricity distribution reading.

Madam, I do not want to go into too many details of the possible improvements that can be done, but what has happened is that the cities have become very unwieldy. Unplanned growth of cities has taken place. Villages are also given electricity. When you give electricity to farmers, you take a great pleasure in subsidising the electricity supplied to the farmers. It should not be done to the extent that is done. These lead to all sorts of sudden bursts and power failures. These damage the transformers. As a result, urban areas are forced to have tremendous power cuts.

Madam, this week-end I was in Bangalore. Bangalore is supposed to be a great city in the matter of electricity supply. Electricity supply there had started as early as 1904. At 8'0 clock in the morning there is the first power cut. It will last for three to four hours. So, during the most important period of the day, the electricity is not there. During Sundays, you do not know when electricity will come. You cannot even have a hot-water bath during the winter season. AH this is because of unplanned frequent cuts, poor metering etc. Above all, one of the things which causes so much of confusion is the so-called tariff system and subsidy. A friend of mine told me that there are four systems in the Northern States. One man has power to charge you according to those four systems. That is left to one single person. Why should you have four systems? I do not know on what basis this happens, but, I believe these four systems do operate.

Well, I do not know. In this hon. House there are many Members who are industrialists; probably, they will be knowing as to how they manage with the urban supply of power and how they produce it at a valid and proper cost for sale. But I am told they don't rely upon the source which they should be relying upon. They have gone in for large thesel engine sets in a big way. We all know about it. They can even prove that sometimes it is cheaper. But that is not the fact. Thesel should be used for other purposes. Thesel is an important material. I think some of our industrialist friends here will mention some of the problems that are existing in this area and also as to how the industry is suffering.

There is another way of solving the problem of failures, the problem of poor metering, with the use of computer systems. The software developed by the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, to control failures, to restore power connections as quickly as possible, to find out quickly where the fault is lying, will be of a great help. Because, by the time they find out where the fault had occurred, several hours are lost. It may be in the middle of the night. It may be during daytime. In order to get all these things rectified, modernisation is required. So, the Minister of Power knows what I am talking about. If we have to use modernisation methods, we must have trained people who should know how to handle computer systems, automation systems. As I said earlier, the type of people who come for reading meters are not the type of people who will help in the process of keeping our transmission and our distribution in any particular order. It is really just chaotic, at the moment.

I have made a few suggestions, whatever is possible, you can implement them. . But they are very technical. I had sent a copy of the report to the Minister of Power, prepared by our Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. I hope he has received it. *..(Interruptions)...* He is smiling. That means, he has received it. It was a preliminary study. The study is going on. If you feel that greater the study, greater is the confusion, then, you can implement our suggestions. Indeed what really worries me is : How are you going to solve power shortage over a period of time? I am sure, some other hon. Members here will make some suggestions. Therefore, I will stop here, for the time being. Thank you, Madam

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, I have names of five Members

for putting questions -- not for making speeches — which is our procedure. Mr. Kumaramangalam, would you like to reply now, or, after all the Members have put their questions?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : I w ill reply at the end.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay. Mr. Dipankar Mukherjee.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Madam Deputy Chairman, I am restricting myself to the reply of the Minister of Power to Starred Question No.42, dated 1-12-1999. The Minister of Power has specifically stated in part (b) that certain measures have been taken. I will try to give certain suggestions on those measures. In part (b) *A,* he has stated, "Expeditious implementation of capacity addition programme." In part (b) B, he has stated, "Promotion of measures for demand side management such as flattening of load curve by staggering weekly off.." Probably, I feel (B) and (C) should come before (A) That is the demand side and management side. On the demand side, I want to suggest something. You are trying to say, "..Promotion of measures for demand side management such as flattening of load curve by staggering weekly off day of industrial consumers.."Mostly what you are supposed to do, what you must do right now is the peak management because power shortage occurs only during the peak time. Apart from flattening of load curve by staggering weekly off day of industrial consumers, a lot of efforts are required from all sides of this House. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government can shift staggering of agricultural load also. Many a time, you will find peak loading. Nowadays, we have peak loading. When the industrial load and agricultural toad are coming, they are making things more difficult. I would like to know from the Minister of Power whether there can be some shifting of staggering of agricultural load. There is another thing which was done in the Soviet Union in 1930 for flattening the peak by what they would call as advancing the clock. By advancing the clock half an hour this way or that way-I am taking the National Grid as a whole— you see in Calcutta clock 4.35 to 5 o'clock in the evening whereas in Delhi, it is 6.37. Now, by advancing the clock here, the load transfer can be much better from zone to zone, this peak load management also would be easier. These are three specific suggestions.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want to change the time zone?

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Yes, Madam, that is, advancing by half an hour. These are the three specific suggestions. But how to do this? This is very much necessary. But these things cannot be done by the existing system of the Ministry. Dr. Raja Ramanna has given some suggestions. I suggest that you have a task force. So far as the steps regarding the demand management are concerned, this task force must be independent from the National Institute of Science, UTs, some professionals, ex-ACPs or CAs. Have a task force which will directly tell the Ministry as to what steps are required to be taken in this regard. This is my first part.

My second part is regarding the renovation and modernisation. This part, I hope, the Minister knows well. I would like to refer to the amount of importance, the priority which you are giving for capacity addition for fast track projects for the last four, five years. You say that four per cent is your energy shortage. Suppose your installed capacity is 90,000 megawatts and odd, and if today, we have a plant factor of 60 per cent, you get about 54,000 to 55,000 megawatts, and the average generating load is coming to 64,000 megawatts. Now, if we can add even three to four thousand megawatts without going in for capacity additions, but by renovating and modernising the existing plants, how much load can 1 get? This plan was there right from the Seventh Plan onwards. But this programme is not moving as fast as it should. Before going into the detail, I suggest to the Minister that there is a specific report of the Standing Committee on Energy, that is, 11th Report, on renovation and modernisation. They had given this report in March 1999. I would suggest to the Minister to go through that report and consider the same carefully. The way the fast track projects are there, someone should now say, fast track renovation and modernisation, and in the renovation and modernisation, apart from renovation, the programme right now must start the life assessment of the existing power plants. That study, along with what you call the extended life, should be carried out. How can you give the extended life to the existing power plants? I think even in places like America and the developed countries, how much money^are they spending for giving a new lease of life to the old plants? T)iere, the priority is more on that. Unfortunately, in this poor country, no one is' talking about that. I would like to suggest to the Minister to go through this report. The report contains recommendations on that also, and you can have a separate task force on this also. They will apprise

6,00 P.M.

you about the implementation. They will not come forth with the bureaucratic reasons that this has been done because of this thing or that thing. Now, the Power Finance Corporation is giving the loan at 4 per cent. Now, it has been reduced. It is a good step.

Four per cent is the interest rate for renovation and modernisation. If it is four per cent less, let us give it the same thrust through another task force.

Lastly, I come to the losses. Now, I would like to inform the House about my personal experience. This toss business is discussed here. But the major area where we are lacking is the energy audit. Some Bill was supposed to come on conservation. But it did not come. In certain sub stations, there is no metering. The tosses are all generalised. I had gone to a particular district and asked as to how much was the loss. They said: " It is 30 per cent. It is totally computed." I said: "Why?" They said that the sub station from where the power is going to the people, only the billing is coming. As per the Bill, this is the consumption and there is a computation by that. They say that they are getting this much. The metering is not in the sub station. So, unless the energy audit is made mandatory not only in the industry but everywhere, including the houses, even the Parliament, unless this poor country has the energy audit- the people are having it at a place where power is surplus—we will not achieve much. We must have a mandatory energy audit. The high loss areas and the low toss areas have to be identified. Generalised forty per cent does not carry any sense. Can someone tell me in Delhi right now that out of 40 per cent general losses, this is the area where the toss is the highest? Then I can identify that area, I can concentrate on that area alone. Because this metering system is not working-everywhere, energy audit is not being done, let every zone be under the scrutiny of Energy Audit. Let us find out the high value toss making areas, the medium value toss making areas and the no loss areas, both commercial and domestic. But this general " categorisation of book and this general categorisation of tosses, as it is, is not going to lead us anywhere. I, therefore, ask whether the Power Ministry would, if necessary, come out with a Bill on energy audit, specially in respect of industries which are energy complacent. It is no longer a question of energy efficiency. It is a question of energy complacency. You

will find a tot of appliances. We do not know which appliance we are using in the houses and whether that is energy complacent or not. So, for part of energy efficiency, we must come forward with an energy audit Bill at the earliest.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Madam, it is said that there is only 4.8 per cent shortage. But so far as agriculture is concerned, electricity is given only for four, five or six hours per day. Even then there is no guarantee at what time it will be given to the agriculturists. You say that priority is given to agriculture. The agriculturists in my area have applied for agricultural pumping set service connections. The applications are pending for more than ten years. Some people are ready to pay even Rs. 10,000/- for getting a service connection, but the concerned people say, "It will be given on priority." Sir, a service connection is given to only those people who are paying Rs.25,000/-. I quote a case where one application is pending for ten years. In Punnai area, an agriculturist registered it about ten years ago. When he approached the Executive Engineer, he said, "You are not coming in the seniority." He offered even Rs. 10,000/-. I also requested the Executive Engineer to consider this case because it is pending for more than ten years. Even then, he said, "No; it can't be given. It will be given according to the seniority." If that is the position in agriculture, what is the Government going to do? So far as agriculture is concerened, let there be some priority accorded in giving agricultural pumping set service connections to the agriculturists who are working in a dry place like Punnai.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Jayant Kumar Malhoutra, not here. Shri S.B. Chavan.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN (Maharashra): I thank you, Madam, for giving me an opportunity. When it was the Appropriation Bill, generally it was under discussion. That day, I had raised a number of issues. The problem is about shortage of power. That day, somehow, I could not be there at the time of reply, but now I feel that this Half-an-Hour Discussion is not going to solve the problem. Actually for two consecutive plans, on the authority of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission I am saying this that we have not been able to achieve even 50 per cent of the targets of power and there is something basically wrong due to which I don't think that this is going to be served the purpose. Now we are at the fagend of the Session and that is why I don't think that any useful purpose is going to

serve by raising a discussion for half-an-hour. We will have to have a full-fledged discussion on power. There are a large number of eminent scientists and eminent engineers that we have on power in our country. If they can go to the rescue of other foreign countries, I don't find as to why they should not be able to solve our own problems. The problems are very simple. In the existing system, unfortunately, I don't know what role the hon. Minister can play in this because most of the problems are with the State Electricity Boards, and in spite of the Regulatory Authority, I doubt very much whether he can do anything when the State Governments don't want to cooperate. In spite of the fact that a large number of electricity boards are incurring losses, in spite of the fact that there is a Regulatory Authority also, there is precious little which the hon. Minister can possibly say. The hon. Minister said, '1 will be able to persuade.' That is the phrase he used. 'I will go to the respective State Governments and try to persuade them.' I doubt very much whether persuasion is going to help you in this matter at all because problems have become really chaotic, much more so, at the Electricity Board level. I will give only three or four suggestions. I don't think it is going to be of any use in this discussion. There is a total imbalance between hydro-power and thermal power and the mismatch is increasing. During every plan period, you will find that the mismatch is increasing. There is a tremendous hydro potential available. It is available in Haryana, it is available in Arunachal Pradesh, and it is available in a number of areas. When the hydro-power potential is available, I don't know whether it is only the shortage of finances which is responsible for this, or, the outdated technology; it needs to be gone into. So, you have to consider this aspect as to how best we can bridge this gap and see that a proper percentage between hydro and thermal power is maintained. The real problem is that, —I don't agree with the hon. Member who suggested this; maybe, conditions are different in Bengal,— everytime there is a shortage, it is the agriculturist who suffers the most. And staggering, if it has to be done, it will always be at the cost of the agriculturist. The agriculturist does not get the power even for four hours continously. And at odd hours, that is, at 12 o'clock or thereafter, when it is not required by others, then, they will say, now the power is available, you better use this power. Who is going to be available at 12 o'clock? Do you expect the agriculturist, who has to pay to the labourers, to work at 12 o'clock? If you ask the labourer to come at night, he will surely say, ' You have your way, I will not come at

night.' This is how the agricultural production, the industrial production and also the domestic production is suffering. How to go about it? You try to find a solution to this problem. I think it is necessary to appoint a Committee of Experts, who should go into the details and find out how best we can reduce the mismatch and achieve the power that we require.

Another very extravagant thing that we require is the gas-based power stations. The State Governments have been given a quota. This is a sort of crisis management. I can understand overcoming a crisis situation, but it is very expensive. 1 don't think a gas-based station is going to be as cheap as we expect it to be. It is very expensive. If, sometimes, peaking capacity is made available, I can understand that. But this is going on and everybody is trying to utilize this. You have given a free quota of gas to almost all the States. You have given them full power to make use of this gas for this kind of work. Using gas for this purpose itself is an extravagant use of gas. Gas should be used for petro-chemical industries. Instead of doing that, we are adopting this kind of a course. 1 don't think it is a very proper use of the gas-based power stations.

You have referred to transmission and distribution losses of about 40 -50 per cent when the production is next door. What is the position in Delhi? There is 40 per cent distribution losses? How do you justify it? It has been going on for years together. It is not that it has come only this year, or, last year. For almost ten to fifteen years it has been continuously going on. It is a regular theft. I don't think any other nomenclature will be correct. It is a regular theft and everybody indulges in it. People take power directly from the transmission lines and nobody goes and checks it. How is it that it has been continued for years together? Nobody seems to be responsible for it. Everybody goes on happily. There is so much of power theft and it is at the expense of those who are genuine consumers and who are paying for it. These people get away with the theft of power. 1 don't know how you are going to check it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They are the so-called farmhouses around Delhi which are using the subsidised electricity for their own personal use. No farmer is really getting as much subsidised power as the huge farmhouses are getting. 1 think the Minister will agree with me.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA (Uttar Pradesh) : They are palaces, not farmhouses.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yeah, I know.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Madam, the other day, I was not here. If you increase the PLF by 3% to 4%, at least, we will have some power available. With the utilisation of 85% of the established capacity, why should it be difficult for anyone? If some of the power stations can utilise 90% of the established capacity, if they can run with 90% efficiency, there is hardly any justification for having 50% or 60% utilisation somewhere else. So, these are all matters which definitely need to be gone into. But I don't think any kind of suggestions, which I have tried to give in this House, are going to be of any use. A Short Duration Discussion, that too a regular discussion for three to four hours, is necessary, if we are really serious in overcoming the shortage of power which, in fact, is the main infrastructure for all development. If power is not available, any kind of planning for a 7% to 8% growth rate is all tall talk. I don't think anything is going to be achieved by this kind of a Half-an-Hour Discussion.

Madam, I have gone through some of the suggestions. I am sure the hon. Minister is quite aware of all these things. There is nothing new in my suggestions. But the whole fault lies at the stage of implementation. If implementation is not coming to the expected level, how to bring about this kind of a thing is a matter which he has to look into. I am sure he will look into it. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have two more names. I think the Minister can give to the House the number of farmhouses around Delhi where electricity is supplied and the bills which they are paying because the House has a right to know about this. The blame is going to the farmers and the farmers are not getting it. I think the Members have a right to know about it. Shri Jayant Malhoutra.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA : Madam, I have come here with the intention of making a statement. But I have been advised that all that we could do was to ask questions. So, I reframe four or five major areas where I find a lot of shortcomings. My friend, Mr. Dipankar Mukherjee, has mentioned about upgrading the existing facilities. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the situation in U.P. In U.P. the installed capacity is 6,200 megawatts. About a year ago I had some discussions with some of the senior bureaucrats and technicians who were involved in power generation, and I learnt to my horror that the

generation of power was around 2,000 megawatts. It means that it was about 30% odd. As Mr. Chavan has mentioned, there are power stations in India—we are not comparing them with the rest of the world—in India which generate over 90% of power. I interacted with those officers and we came to the conclusion, with the advice of some advisers from Tata Power, that at a cost of Rs.800 crores, most of these defective or substandard power stations could be improved.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI) in the Chair]

But the answer was that we didn't have Rs.800 crores. Yet, they were making plans to put up a power generation unit at a cost of Rs.5,000 crores to generate 1,000 or 1,200 megawatts of power. When I looked at their balance-sheets, I found that they had not collected bills amounting to Rs.3200 crores. For a product which is in the sellers' market, there is no reason for having such huge collectibles. I said, if you can reduce your collectibles by a thousand crores, you will have enough money to upgrade your power stations. You are short of only 1000 mw. You can increase your generation by atleast 2000-3000 mw. It would take a year or two, instead of four or five years that it normally takes, to put up a new power station. My question to the hon. Minister, therefore, is whether some such scheme would be put in place, whereby, if we are generating 60,000 megawatts from our installed capacity of say 90,000 megawatts; whether we have an annual upgradation programme wherein, by upgradation alone, we can increase our generation by, say, 4% or 5% which means there would be about 3000-4000 megawatts increase by way of better management, by way of better maintenance, by really letting these officers undergo a management programme, because there is weakness in management, there is weakness in the maintenance of these facilities. Pilferages are there. Therefore, maintenace is not proper. I would like to mention here that there is a utility in the United States which generates 45,000-50,000 megawatts and I am told that the average age of that facility is 45 years. That means, the plants are 45 years old and they are generating over 90%. And here, we have relatively new plants generating 30%-35%. So, the first effort of this Government should be to improve the generation. It will take less time; it will probably cost you 20% of the money required to put up a new plant.

The second question, Sir, I have raised this earlier also , is the, high cost of new plants , where you have to invest about four crores or five crores or six crores to generate a megawatt. I do not know whether the hon. Minister knows that in the private sector the cost of hardware and imported first-class prime hardware has come down to about one-fourth of what it used to be five or six years ago. Today, you can get the finest generating caterpillar sets, produced or assembled, in Pondicherry, manufactured by the largest hardware manufacturing company in the world, Caterpillar. With the hardware costing fifty five lakhs, you can generate one-and-a-half megawatt. Now I am saying this based on my experience because a number of my own plants have generating capacities of four to five megawatts. And that is the cost. Therefore, when you put up a big plant like Enron or the one which is coming up in Andhra Pradesh by the Hindujas or the one by Cogentrix - I think Enron is already there, but Hyderabad artd Cogentrix, I think you should re-negotiate - I would recommend that instead of negotiating the cost of the plant, you should ask them; "what it would cost if we give you a guaranteed purchase agreement for 20 years; whether you charge me two rupees a unit or three rupees a unit, I do not care, if you invest ten thousand rupees or ten crores of rupees." Reverse the guarantees that you are asking for. Ask them "we will guarantee you so much purchase, what will be your cost at which you will offer this to us? 1 would like the hon. Minister to enlighten us on this aspect. The third point, which is a very important point, is that, in relatively better off States like Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, there is a tremendous power shortage and there is also a tremendous mismanagement. They keep on throwing this blame on the Northern States, but the situation is equally bad in these States. I will give you an instance of a medium-scale industry. It was an investment of about forty to fifty crores in the field of engineering which was put up two years ago in Chennai. Incidentally, it supplies engines for Hyundai cars. Two years down the line, they still don't have a power connection. They were forced to put up their own generating unit of four to five megawatts so that they can survive, although the State of Tamil Nadu had promised full power to them as soon as their plant was installed. Now this is what is happening in these States. It is happening in Karnataka also. What is the answer? I think the shortages are more in the mind. Nobody has really applied his mind to ensure that instead of a four per cent shortage, theje is a five per cent surplus in the country. We should took into

this problem of incremental generating capacity along with the improvement in the quality or the percentage of generation simultaneously and set targets for both so that in the next three or four years we can become a surplus country so far as power generation is concerned. Lastly, I would like to talk about Maharashtra. You have enough power there. But the quality of power is very poor. We have world-class chemical plants there which run through computers. We all know that if there is a fluctuation of power or if for even five minutes power goes off due to careless management there, one plant loses its two days production plus damages to the computers and electronic system. This is happening. I say this with experience. We have these problems: (a) high cost of production, (b) poor quality of generation and (c) as Dr. Ramanna has said, very poor distribution. Unless we set them right, this country will never be in a position to compete in the world market. This problem and the subject of power generation is crucial for the Indian economy. Therefore, Mr. Minister, you must apply your mind and look at the problem in its totality and try to come with solutions, not projections that we are going to do this and we are going to do that; and whereby nothing happens. Cogentrix took ten years. Let the Cogentrix go to hell. You will get ten other people on those terms and better terms will be there. 1 think the cost of Cogentrix plant is too high. You must renegotiate that. These are a few questions, which I have in mind. 1 would request the Minister to reply to these questions. Thank you.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

(I) The Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1999

(II) The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer' Rights Bill, 1999

ADDITIONAL-SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

(I)

"I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 21st December, 1999, adopted the enclosed motion in regard to the Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1999.