

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mrs. Chandra Kala Pandey, do you still want to say something?

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडेय (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : यह जो संवेदन लात इसमें इन्होंने उठाया है उससे मैं यानी आप को संतुष्ट करती हूँ। मिनिस्टर साहब ने जवाब का दिया जवाब है इसलिए बहुत कुछ बोलने की जरूरत नहीं है। जब भी हमारे देश में कोई समस्या फैलती है आये तो हम उस की निवारण उपाय सामना करना चाहिये और उसकी प्रतिक्रिया बाहिर करनी चाहिये।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mrs. Anandiben Patel, do you still want to say something?

श्रीमती आनन्दीबेन जेठाभाई पटेल : (गुजरात) : महोदय, जो विषय महेश्वर जी ने रखा है उससे मैं अपने आप को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ और केन्द्रीय सरकार से आग्रह करती हूँ कि वह तुरन्त ध्यान देकर महामना करे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): We have concluded the Zero Hour Submissions. Now message from the Lok Sabha, Secretary-General.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

THE APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) No. 4 BILL, 1997.

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

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 1997, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th August, 1997.

The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Now we will resume the Calling Attention Motion.

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, what about Special Mentions?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): We will take up the Special Mentions after this. Yesterday's Calling Attention Motion is here. That is not going to be a debate today. There will be only clarifications.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : महोदय, स्पेशल मेंशन तो थोड़े ही है, वह तो ही जाने चाहिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): You please sit down. The procedure is that soon after the Question Hour we are supposed to take the Calling Attention Motion. Yesterday we had taken the time of the House. Today we have taken up the Zero Hour Submissions. Now we will take up the Calling Attention Motion. The hon. Minister is also sitting here. We will take up the Special Mentions later. Now we will resume the discussion on the Calling Attention Motion. As I have mentioned, it is not going to be a discussion as listed in the List of Business. There will only be clarifications. Now I would request Prof. Naunihal Singh to resume.

Calling Attention to matter of urgent Public Importance Power crisis in the country-Contd.

PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. Yesterday I made certain observations about the acute problem of power shortage in the country. In this very context what we have to do is to plan for efficient generation and

utilisation of energy, prudent use of energy in industry and transport so that they don't pollute any area of human life, search for and research in the development of new and pollution-free sources of energy and its commercial viability and to bring the level of pollution to five per cent to ensure that the air we breathe and the water we drink are safe. However, it is pointed out that the consumption requirement of electricity at the consumers' end will be around 622 billion kilowatt-hours by the end of the next 15 years. The generation requirement from utilities will be to the tune of 749 billion kilowatt-hours. On the supply side emphasis should be laid on increased hydel power generation. The hydel potential of the North-Eastern Region should be exploited fully. Gas-based stations can be supplemented for peaking purposes. However, reliable gas supply has to be ensured. Availability of heavy water should be ensured for achieving nuclear power generation targets. Wind energy has a potential for 20,000 megawatts and mini or micro hydel projects have a potential of 5,000 megawatts which need to be tapped. Better ways of grid integration and demand management have to be evolved. Other non-conventional energy sources like photovoltaics, ocean energy, solar energy, etc., can be economically feasible with indigenisation of technology. At the commencement of the Eighth Plan the country faced a peaking shortage of around 10 per cent and energy shortage of around 8 per cent. Corresponding figures at the end of March 1995 were 16.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively.

While supply shortages have not aggravated over the first three years of the Eighth Plan, SEB finances have been steadily deteriorating. Commercial losses which amounted to Rs. 41 billion in 1991-92 increased to Rs. 63 billion in 1994-95 which is over 50 per cent. Although coal, oil, gas, hydro-

electric potential constitute the conventional sources of electricity generation, yet coal based thermal power plants and hydro power plants have been the mainstay. It is assessed that 17 per cent of the country's hydel potential remains, as yet, unexploited. Besides, wind and solar energy are also available for tapping. A growing demand is there in the areas of agriculture. But there is a greater shortage of supply. Unless major power tariff reforms are carried out, the financial problems of SEB will continue. Additions to installed capacity during the Eighth Plan were originally planned at 30,538 MW. But due to the shortfall experienced in the first three years, the actual likely capacity addition is now re-estimated at only 18023 MW including 1348 MW in the private sector. The main reasons for the shortfall are deficiencies in project management, problems related to externally aided projects, law and order problem and resource constraint. Due to this serious slippage in plant capacity addition, the shortage in peaking and energy at the end of the Eighth Plan are projected to be as much as 29 per cent and 15 per cent respectively. Clearly there is an urgent need to accelerate private investment in power in both the public and the private sectors immediately. Any further delay in clearing power projects will inflict incalculable losses in the economy.

So far as the financial performance is concerned, only 2 per cent of the SEBs of the country are expected to reach the target of ensuring a minimum return of 3 per cent of the value of fixed assets in use as specified by the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

At the root of the chronic inability of SEBs to raise needed investments is the uneconomic subsidised pricing of electricity for domestic and agricultural segments.

According to provisional figures, average tariff per unit (Kwh) sold

was 132.9 paise in 1994-95 as against per unit of 159.9 paise.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Prof. Naunihal, you have already taken five minutes. We are not having any debate. Please conclude.

PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: In this situation I do not know what the Government is doing to solve this particular problem. But my recommendations are as follows. I hope the Minister for Power and the Government will study these recommendations thoroughly. My recommendations are: (1) Cost-based pricing for each consumer segment in a phased manner through a 10 per cent in average tariff per annum net of inflation; (2) Independent regulation of prices with a provision for price reform to be balanced by improvement in quality of service; (3) A Central Electricity Regulatory Commission outside the Government's operative control. Autonomy of regulatory agencies both at the Centre and State levels. There should be a pre-determined benchmark price per unit of energy as the basis for allowing private power projects. An unambiguous political mandate to secure the target price or break off negotiations should also be there. Urgent restructuring of SEBs into compact, viable, corporate units that support the generation, transmission and distribution function should be there. There should be replacement of plant load factor, plant availability with adoption of time and introduction of power costing. Lastly, we should evolve a medium-term total fuel policy. Thank you.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman I crave your indulgence to permit me to clarify one issue on which the House was so much agitated some time ago. On the basis of reports in the newspapers, the House was agitated because an impression was created that Lata

Mangeshkar, after singing *Sare Jahan Se Acha* was going to open a bottle some soft drink. I was myself agitated. The report was rather misleading and so was the advertisement. I ring her up immediately and said, "What is this?" Sir, she told me categorically that she was not opening any bottle either in the Central Hall or elsewhere. An entirely misleading statement had been made. But there is one more thing I must protest against. My personal knowledge was that the Cultural Ministry was arranging her programme. They are monitoring the programme minute by minute. For the Minister to have said that the Government had nothing to do with the programme was absolutely and utterly incorrect in my opinion. Thank you.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH (Rajasthan): In the morning itself we objected to Mr. Reddy's statement that the Government had nothing to do with this programme.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Anyway, this has been clarified by Mr. Salve and I thank him.

SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR (Maharashtra): While initiating the debate yesterday, the Hon. Member, Shri S. B. Chavan had begun in a cautious manner which was almost bordering on pessimism. Unfortunately, he did not give the figures and the figures are rather electrifying. The energy shortfall in 1992-93 in terms of million units was 8.3, in 1993-94, it was 7.4, in 1994-95, it was 7.1 and in 1995-96, it was 9.2. In the peak hour, this has gone up to 20.5, 18.3, 16.3 ending with 18.3 in 1996. The commitment is totally out of proportion as far as supply of energy is concerned. The target was for adding 56,783 MW additional capacity in the 9th Plan. It was thought that this was being over-ambitious bordering on ridicule. Therefore, they decided on the figure, 56,650 million units. Now if this has to be achieved in three years time frame, it is possible only if a miracle

takes place. It is for the Government to increase power generation by adding new units. But this will take a long time. What they need to concentrate upon is a totally different field. This is with regard to transmission and distribution losses. Here it is said that, losses, percentage-wise, are much higher in India than in most countries. Internationally, the transmission loss is about 10 per cent, which is acceptable. In India, the loss ranges from 12 to 15 per cent, which is considered acceptable. But actually the loss is 17.6 to 20.6 per cent. It is obvious, therefore, that this is not a case of a mere loss in transmission and distribution. This is a patent case where theft is going on rampantly in connivance with officials who are responsible for this distribution. In 1930, the Rajadhyaksha Committee had suggested that T&D had been totally neglected and unless something was done to improve this, power generation was bound to suffer, no matter what the capacity or what the rate of manufacture was. This is a thing which has to be dealt with on a war-footing. This is important. The other aspect to which possible attention can be paid is regarding interlinking between the various States. It is well known that certain States have surplus of electricity. They have no utilisation of it and certain other States are always reeling under power crisis. In an interlink basis, if distribution is effected it will tide over the difficulty and for the time being attention can be paid to these things to immediately tide over the difficulty. The third thing which I would like to request the Hon. Minister through your medium, Sir, is to introduce professionalism in the Electricity Board. Anybody who is investing, whether he is a foreign national or not, will expect a certain percentage on the return of the equity. All the Electricity Boards, as has been stated yesterday, are in the red. The redness is caused not because enough energy is not available. It is because

of the hopeless lack of professional attitude, an attitude which has to be displayed because this is a commercial venture. Now this is not being attended to. These are the three points and if immediate attention is paid on a war-footing, it will go a long way in solving the crisis till the requirement of energy in the country **is met and that will take a long time.** So, these are the three points on which Government must clarify. There is a reference in the reply given that you have provided for Rs. 200 crores for 1997-98 and the hon. Minister's Plan target requires Rs. 2,28,000 crores and we are talking of Rs. 200 crores. Now this is peanuts and where we give peanuts, we attract monkeys.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): Just a minute, Rs. 200 crores is for this year. It is an interest subsidy. It is made to leverage something like Rs. 2000 to Rs. 3000 crores of investment.

SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR: I stand corrected, if this is the correct answer. But certainly this amount has to be in proportion to the requirement. There is a political adage, 'you give peanuts and you attract monkeys only.' Let us not do that in the Electricity Board. Let us have professionalism, let us have an interlinking of the States, let us have upgradation of losses in transmission and lastly, as a lawyer though I don't believe in deterrent punishment as a way of stopping crime, unless very deterrent provisions are made for punishment the losses will continue to mount because what they are receiving and what they are gaining by theft in contrast is a far profitable business. Therefore, these are the four suggestions which the hon. Minister should

consider and perhaps we will go a long way. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Shri Gurudas Das Gupta. He is not here. Shri S. Niraikulathan. he is not there. Shri Dipankar Mukherjee.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): How many minutes do I have?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): You are supposed to seek clarifications, you are not supposed to have a debate on this.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, I know that. But unfortunately, I would like to point out, we have discussed this issue when this issue was raised in the Question Hour. Actually, a structured discussion was called for and the Minister was very much prepared to have discussions. Unfortunately, I feel sorry that the hon. Minister had to wait here for the last few days to make his comments by way of clarifications.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Adhik Shirodkar) in the Chair.]

The presence of Members in this House itself shows that we are not interested. It is a said reflection on how we are working because in the Question Hour, this question was there and this was treated as one of the priority questions which should be discussed in the House. But, unfortunately, there is no structured discussion. It is a Calling Attention which started at 4.00 p.m. yesterday and at 3.00 p.m. today. In these circumstances, those of us who are very much interested in discussing the power situation would not derive any satisfaction nor the Minister would because four or five questions would not clarify the doubts in the minds of people. Anyway, I have two-three clarifications to seek.

I am glad to find one thing—there is a definite change in the approach. It is clear from the Calling Attention as well as the Annual Reports of the Ministry of Power that there is a definite change in the approach—from overdependence on the so-called IPPs and fast track projects to an improvement in the installed capacities. Some sort of blind capacity addition has given way to some cool thinking whereby instead of capacity addition, the focus has changed to improving the installed capacity.

Through you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I would like to invite the attention of the Minister to the first para of his statement wherein he said that in July, 97 the energy shortage was 8.3 per cent while the peak deficit was 14.5%. You will find one thing here. You yourself, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, have pointed out just now. I am talking about energy shortages from 1992-93 onwards. In 1992-93, it was 8.3 per cent. In 1993-94, it was 7.3%. In 1994-95, it was 7.1% and in 1995-96, it was 9.2%. In July, 97, it was 8.3%. If these figures are to be believed, then there has been an improvement in the power position. Similarly, in respect of peak demand shortages, from 1992-93 onwards, it was 20.9% in 1992-93. In 1993-94, it was 18.3%. In 1994-95, it was 16.5% and in 1995-96, it was 18.3%. In the month of July, 1997, it was 14.5%. Now, if these figures are to be relied upon, then the power situation in this country has definitely improved. But if you ask the Members, if you ask the people outside, they will tell you the real position. They say, "No, the power situation has not improved; power deficit is still there." That is why I am having a little doubt about these shortage figures. How did you arrive at the shortage figures? Figures regarding availability are known because they are metered. The availability figure is metered and you know that this much has been generated. But, so far as the requirement figure is concerned, you would not know because it is not metered.

The requirement is what you have anticipated or estimated. I want to know whether the figures which you have given for 1992-93 onwards till todate are restricted figures, representing restricted requirements. How have you anticipated or estimated the requirement? If you say that this is the requirement, then I will come to the basic questions. How are you planning for the Ninth Five Year Plan? In respect of peak demand, in 1992-93, it was 52,000 MW. Then, it was 54,000 MW. The next year, it was 57,000 MW. In 1995-96, it was 60,000 MW. Every year, there is an increase of about 3,000 MW. If these shortages remain, it means that whatever demand addition has been there, that is being met with whatever we have added to the capacity. The only thing which remains unresolved still is the supply-demand gap which is already maintained. The growth is 3,000 MW a year, if you take into account the figures for the last five years. Then, in the next five years, we have an increase of about 15,000 or 20,000 MW. But you are saying that in the next five years, your requirement would be 56,000 MW. Here I want to draw the attention of the House and of the Vice-Chairman. Peak demand in 1992-93 was 52,000 MW. It went up to 60,000 MW in 1995-96. In 1996-97, it must have been 62,000 or 64,000 MW if you consider that 3,000 MW is the increase. If this is the basis on which you have made your calculation, if you are anticipating 56,000 MW in the Ninth Five Year Plan, then, what is its basis? Is it on the basis of the Electric Power Survey? I would like to know the basis of your calculation. Kindly tell us whether the Electric Power Survey had indicated that this much would be the requirement. So, this anticipatory requirement is 3,000 MW.

Now I come to my basic question. 62,000 MW is the peak demand today. In 1995-96 it was 60,000 MW. Your installed capacity is 86,000 and

odd megawatt. What is the plant availability of the nation as a whole? I understand it is 70%. I am not talking about the plant load factor. As a matter of fact, my suggestion to the whole House and to the Ministry is that for some years we have to forget the plant load factor business. It is a misnomer. It is a misleading figure. It is the plant availability figure which is more important. The plant load factor will depend on the load and if you don't have load in night you have to stop the plant. And that is the biggest problem. (Time bell rings) Oh! I have to stop! Just give me two or three minutes more. Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): You have already completed five minutes.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: So, the whole of this idea is based on this. The demand-supply gap, which you are talking about, is based on this. You are saying that there is an increase of 2,000 MW or 3,000 MW and 86,000 MW is the capacity. If the plant availability is 70%, then your availability of power should be 60,000 and odd megawatt. What is your anticipated figure of plant availability during the next five years? If it is more than 70%, then what happens to the supply-demand gap? So, I would like to know the plant availability factor. And so far as the present condition is concerned, what is the difference between the supply and the demand?

My next point is about the supply-demand gap—the 56,000 MW that you are talking about. How much of this is the peaking load requirement and how much of this is the base load requirement? If my information is correct, then out of 56,000 and odd megawatt 40,000 MW may be the base load and 10,000 to 12,000 MW may be the peaking load. If your peaking shortage is more—because you are doing renovation and mo-

dernisation which is base load—then why are having this 12,000 MW Naphtha-based power plant for base load? And that too you are guaranting at 90% PLF. Why can't you have gas turbines if you really want to have it as a short-term measure as only a peaking load for three-four hours' running, as an open cycle gas turbine rather than a closed gas turbine?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): Thank you. You have already exceeded seven minutes. There are fourteen names more.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I will make just two points more, Sir. So, this is regarding Naptha which is very costly. Now, demand management has been touched by some hon. Members but it has to be treated more seriously. What action are we taking so far as demand management is concerned in the course of peak load chopping, that is, staggering of loads, energy audit and improvements like standardisation of pumps, etc. which are being used in agriculture?

My last question is, When we talk about restructuring, what has been our experience of the Orissa model? I feel that should first be analysed before you go in for any drastic restructuring of the present SEBs. Thank you, Sir, but I don't think it is enough for me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): Thank you. I have before me ten more names. So I would be happy if the hon. Members confine themselves to making points only and not elucidating the points. Shri Ish Dutt Yadav.

श्री ईशरदत्त यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, देश में विद्युत की समस्या गंभीर है और इस पर हम इस सदन में चर्चा कर रहे हैं और माननीय मंत्री जी से कुछ उत्तर भी चाहते हैं नया स्फुटीकरण

भी चाहते हैं कि इस गंभीर स्थिति का निराकरण कैसे होगा। बिजली ग्राम आदमी की जिन्दगी से जुड़ी हुई है। इसका देश के विकास से, उद्योग से, यातायात से और देश की अर्थ व्यवस्था से संबंध है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस सदन में जो कथन बयान दिया है इसके लिए मैं इनको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि इन्होंने इसमें कोई चीज छुपाई नहीं है बल्कि बहुत स्पष्ट बयान दिया है। मंत्री जी के बयान से यह साफ हो जाता है कि देश के अनेक भागों में विद्युत की बहुत जवदस्त कमी है। और आठवीं योजना में जो विद्युत उत्पादन अपेक्षित था, उस में 46 प्रतिशत की कमी आई है। जल-विद्युत उत्पादन में कमी आई है।

महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपने बयान में एक चीज बहुत अलापिग करी है कि ग्रामीतीन वर्षों में विद्युत संकट बढ़ेगा य हम उस के ऊपर नियंत्रण नहीं कर पाएँगे, ऐसा मुझे उस के बयान में स्पष्ट होता है। महोदय, इस में जो एनेकवार बयान है, उस के हिसाब से पूरे देश को 5 क्षेत्रों में बिजली के उत्पादन और वितरण के हिसाब से बांटा गया है। इस में ऐसा सत्य होता है कि प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में बिजली की कमी है और उत्तर प्रदेश जो कि देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रदेश है, अगर मंत्री जी के आंकड़े सही हैं और सही होंगे इस में संदेह नहीं है, तो उत्तर प्रदेश में 25.3 नव्वल मेग.वाट की कमी है। अब अगर स्थिति यह है और जैसा कि मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं कि हम उत्पादन नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में 46 प्रतिशत की कमी आई है और ग्रामी 3 वर्षों में विद्युत उत्पादन में सुधार होने की संभावना नहीं है तो यह अत्यंत ही चिंताजनक है। मन्थवर, मैं समझता हूँ कि देश में जो बिजली का संकट है या बिजली का जो अभाव है, इस के लिए सरकारी बहुत कुछ जिम्मेदार है। सारी जिम्मेदारी सरकार की है क्योंकि मंत्री जी के बयान से भी मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि इस के लिए पर्याप्त बजटरी सपोर्ट नहीं मिलता है, पर्याप्त धन की व्यवस्था नहीं की गयी है जिस से कि देश में विद्युत उत्पादन किया जा सके। यही कारण है कि देश के पाँचों भागों में, जैसा कि उन्हें विद्युत के हिसाब से बांटा गया है, देश में विद्युत संकट विद्यमान है। दूसरा कारण, मैं कहना

चाहूंगा कि राज्यों के विद्युत बोर्ड्स डिफेक्ट हो चुके हैं। ये भ्रष्टाचार के झंडे बने हुए हैं। महोदय, मैं अपने उत्तर प्रदेश का उदाहरण दे रहा हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश का विद्युत बोर्ड एक सफेद हाथी है। वहाँ जो चैयरमैन नियुक्त होता है, वह रिटायर्ड आदमी होता है और इस समय वहाँ जो विद्युत बोर्ड के चैयरमैन हैं वह मुख्य मंत्री के कृपा-पात हैं। चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश के अंदर बिजली उत्पादन हो या न हो, चाहे लोगों को बिजली मिले या न मिले कोई परवाह नहीं। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमें देश के इन विद्युत बोर्ड्स का पुनर्गठन करना होगा। इन्हें स्वायत्तशासी बनाना होगा और इन्हें पूरे अधिकार देने होंगे। महोदय, तीसरा कारण, मेरी समझ में भ्रष्टाचार है। सरकार अगर इस पर नियंत्रण नहीं लगाएगी तो सरकार की जितनी भी योजनाएँ रहेंगी, जितना भी विद्युत उत्पादन आप करेंगे, उस का सही ढंग से उपभोक्ता तक वितरण नहीं हो पाएगा। उपभोक्ता सही ढंग से इस विद्युत का लाभ नहीं उठा पाएंगे क्योंकि चाहे विद्युत विभाग हो, विद्युत बोर्ड हो और चाहे प्रदेश की अन्य इकाइयाँ हो या बिजली की इकाइयाँ हों, सारे-सारे भ्रष्टाचार के झंडे बने हुए हैं। मान्यवर, आज बिजली विभाग में चाहे इंजीनियर का प्रमोशन हो या ट्रांसफर हो, मैं कोई स्पेसिफिक उदाहरण तो नहीं देना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि सदन में नाम लेना ठीक नहीं है, यह सब पैसे के आधार पर हो रहा है। जब पैसे के आधार पर प्रमोशन और ट्रांसफर हो रही हो, अच्छी पोस्टिंग हो रही हो तो फिर उसमें भ्रष्टाचार तो रहेगा ही।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): You have made your point. Please conclude.

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Sir, I will not take more than two minutes.

आज किसान को बिजली नहीं मिल पा रही है, छोटे उद्योग धंधों को बिजली नहीं मिल पा रही है। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि अगर देश में कृषि का उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ेगा, किसान को सस्ती दर पर बिजली उपलब्ध नहीं कराई जाएगी तो देश का विकास रुक जाएगा। मान्यवर, आज गांवों की हालत क्या है? मैं गांव में रहता हूँ और हमारे बहुत से माननीय सदस्य गांवों में रहते हैं, वहाँ की हालत को जानते हैं

कि आज वहाँ एक घंटा या दो घंटे बिजली मिल रही है और कभी रात के 12 बजे तो कभी रात के 2 बजे मिल रही है। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि देश में विद्युत का उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाए और विद्युत का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के बाद कृषि और छोटे उद्योग धंधों को प्राथमिकता दी जाए क्योंकि कृषि और छोटे उद्योग धंधे ही दो ऐसे तरीके हैं जिनसे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को ठीक किया जा सकता है। गरीबी और बेकारी दूर की जा सकती है। इसलिए कृषि और छोटे उद्योगों के लिए जहाँ प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिए वहीं इनको सस्ती दर पर बिजली दी जानी चाहिये। इसके साथ ही साथ मैं चाहूंगा कि विद्युत विभाग में जो भ्रष्टाचार है, उस भ्रष्टाचार को समाप्त करने का आप हर प्रयास करें, आप दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति दिखाएं तभी, जो आपने निराशा की बात कही है कि तीन वर्ष तक हमें विद्युत आपूर्ति में कठिनाई है, वह कठिनाई दूर हो सकती है।

मान्यवर, आपने मुझे इतनी गंभीर समस्या पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): Thank you, Mr. Yadav. Shri Chitharanjan, not here. Shri Vedprakash Goyal.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I share the sentiments of my technocrat colleague, Shri Dipankar Mukherjee. I am sorry that on such a serious subject such a short time is being allowed. I, therefore, skip all the figures and the text which I thought I would present before the House. I will refer only to the statement of the hon. Minister.

In the beginning, the Minister has played down the gravity of the crisis. He has treated the subject just like any power shortage problem that is routinely answered in the House in response to Starred or Unstarred questions. This is a serious matter and when the whole country is agitated on that, it should have been treated more seriously. The reply refers to two reasons. This crisis is

a man-made crisis. It is not a natural calamity and the statement addresses itself to the hydel power non-performance. Hydel power non-performance can be understood as that is dependent on monsoon which the planners also should take into account when they plan the total power availability in the country. But, the main reason which has been brought out in the Performance Report of the Ministry of Power is the change of policy in 1991. At that time, it was expected that if privatisation was allowed in the sector, private industries would flock and, therefore, the investment of the public sector could be reduced. While no steps were taken to ensure that the power generating capacity in the private sector entered the arena, the Government spending, which used to be about 20%, was reduced to 10 per cent. In fact, two things should have been dovetailed. Why was such a simple step not thought of? The result was the crisis of reduction of power generation capacity and reduction of power addition, by 48% which is a terrible thing. That has created a crisis which should have been brought out in the answer. 240 units registered themselves. There is no mechanism to see how they performed within five years. There was no monitoring mechanism. Even in case of a road accident, the police comes to help the car driver if there is a road block. Here no attempt was made to help the private entrepreneurs who were trying to come and for five years the Minister just looked on. The result is that we are suffering now. There is an urgent need of in-depth study, rather I would say, inter-countries comparison. We have failed very badly in comparison to other countries who started like us in 1948. One example in China. Steps should be taken to ensure that privatisation succeeds. My fear is that when transmission, distribution are privatised, we may

come to the same state of affairs if effective steps are not taken for their success. (*Time-Bell rings*) I will take two minutes. Steps should be taken to ensure that we do not fail and the Minister may not have to come again with some miserable figures. Sir, I think the CEA is being made a scapegoat. I do not believe that CEA is the only cause. The causes are many which cannot be discussed now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): You have one minute left.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: The price of electricity in our country, the price that I pay for electricity is three to four times more than what my competitors in the world pay. In our industrial States like Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh price is 340 paise whereas in other countries it is 75 paise to one rupee per unit. There are some short-term strategies which I will not refer to because I do not know how much performance they would give. Lastly, I would make only one point. I do not see any long-term strategy which is mentioned here. Here it is often stated about the financial health of SEBs, private industry, etc. They have been repeated time and again. There is no mention of nuclear power which I see is the only solution for our country after 25 years or 40 years. We are talking of long-term strategies. We have to see where we are. Tehre is one project of 1000 MW, which appeared in the newspapers also, for which an agreement is likely to be entered into with Russia. I do not know what is the state of that project. We should benefit from that. We benefited a lot when we took a Canadian reactor.

It helped the country to learn nuclear technology and become self-sufficient. I want to make sure, and I want to enquire, whether this one

thousand MW atomic power project of the Government with Russia is coming up or not and what additional support is going to be given to the Nuclear Power Corporation. Our share is only 2.3 per cent. How can it be increased to ten per cent in the foreseeable future? This is my next question. Thank you.

श्री संजय निरुपम (महाराष्ट्र) : मैं माननीय सदस्यों से अनुरोध करूंगा कि पहली बार आज शिरोडकर साहब चेयर पर बैठे हैं, हमें मेजे थपथपाकर इनका स्वागत करना चाहिए।

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I read carefully the statement of the hon. Power Minister. I feel he has tried to give a little rosy picture. But the basic difficulty is of the availability of power. The Government shall have to seriously think and take certain decisions to demarcate the responsibilities first as to what will be the responsibility of the Centre to provide power and what will be the responsibility of the State Governments and the State Electricity Boards to provide power. If the Central Government wants to assume this responsibility, if the hon. Minister wants this responsibility, then I have nothing more to say. But, so far as I understand there is division of responsibilities. Some responsibilities have been taken over by the NTPC, the public sector and the Government companies. Otherwise, the responsibility is being carried out, as on today, by the State Electricity Boards. We should not forget that whatever is existing in this country today — industry and other things — is because of the Electricity Boards. The credit should be given to the Electricity Boards. Sir, everybody says,

विजली की जख्मत है, मगर

वह आसमान से नहीं गिरती।
billi is to be generated. How to

generate it, from where to bring the money, where the plant should be located, why the plant should be located there, these are all very relevant questions.

The other relevant point is cost of electricity. In this country, everybody complains about cost. The cost of electricity is also to be considered while taking certain decisions. One of the decisions is, the linkage of coal and transportation cost. There are Electricity Boards in the country where they are paying more for the transportation of coal than the price of coal itself. The price of coal is less and the transport cost is more. That is the position of Electricity Boards. If that will continue, the Electricity Boards' difficulties will also continue. The time has come, we have reached a point where the electricity plants, generating plants should be only at pit-heads. The power can be transmitted. If coal can be transmitted why not power? There is a Power Grid Corporation, Government of India's own organisation. They are doing it for four or five paise per unit. This is what I am told. If they are doing it for four or five paise per unit as transmission cost, that is not bad. So, put the power stations at pit-heads and transfer the power wherever it is necessary through the Power Grid Corporation. That is very simple.

Sir, one more suggestion I would like to make. The NTPC is doing good work. The NTPC is not to distribute power. The NTPC gives straight to the Electricity Boards. Therefore, their PLF is also, naturally, very high. It should be very high, I agree. But, there should be a view of the Government that the NTPC should join a joint venture with some Electricity Board of their choice. I would not say that we should have a joint venture with a particular Electricity Board. They may not agree. But if they agree,

they should have a joint venture for generating power and putting a plant with some Electricity Board only at pit-heads. No power station should be allowed to be located at a place where the fuel is not available and fuel is to be transported. What is the Fuel Policy of this Government? Let me know. I am sorry to say that even the earlier Government had no Fuel Policy. We are discussing about the Power Policy. What is the Fuel Policy? Can there be a Power Policy without a Fuel Policy? There is no Fuel Policy in the country today. Everything is going haphazardly. There is a cross-transportation of fuel-gas going from West to East and coal coming from East to West. That is our Fuel Policy. Nobody applies his mind.

The other thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is about PLF. Everybody talks about the plant load factor of the power plant and says that it is 40 per cent or 45 per cent or 50 per cent. Sir, plant load factor and plant availability factor are two different things. If the NTPC is going to give power at a cheaper rate, the Electricity Boards will shut down their units or they will run at a lower rate. Therefore, the plant load factor has to be distinguished from the plant availability factor and that was not considered by so many friends.

Sir, one more important point I would like to bring to your notice. The State Electricity Boards are in a poor condition. Nobody bothers about their difficulties. The State Governments are not paying their dues to the Electricity Boards. All the leaders sitting in the House, have they ever said that whatever dues the State Government have to give to the Electricity Boards have to be given? Now, there is a suggestion which has come from the Power Ministry itself. I am very happy to

say this. Let them decide, that whatever is to be paid to the Electricity Boards should be deducted from the State Government's money which they are going to give by way of grant or loan; whatever is due to the Power Finance Corporation or the NTPC to be paid by the Electricity Boards should be directly deducted from the State Government's money which is supposed to be given by the State Governments. Otherwise, the State Governments are never going to bother about the Electricity Boards.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): Mr. Bhatt, please conclude.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: I am concluding. You give me only one minute. I would like to tell about the T & D losses. Everybody would like to beat the poor State Electricity Boards. There may be some line losses therefore high tension lines are to be laid. Nobody thinks about or talks about theft. There is theft of power on a large scale both in agriculture and in industry. If a power connection is cut off, then notes are sent by political leaders to poor State Electricity Board, "Please reconnect this particular connection". They do not bother about theft. Has any MP or MLA ever informed the State Electricity Board that theft is going on here? ... (Interruptions) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): Thank you, Mr. Bhatt. You have made your point.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: One minute, Sir. In Gujarat, I know some Ministers in the present Government have written letters to the State Electricity Board "I have gone through the representation by such and such industrialist. There is no case of theft. Please reconnect it." They simply take the decision sitting in *Sachivalaya*. This is the condition

of the State Electricity Boards. All these relevant issues have to be put together, considered and the Power Ministry will have to apply its mind to evolve a long-term policy because there will always be a demand for power supply.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHIK SHIRODKAR): Thank you, Mr. Bhatt. I would request the hon. Members to kindly confine themselves to the points rather than paraphrasing. Now, first I will request Mr. Jayant Malhoutra and then Mr. Duraisamy.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA (Uttar Pradesh): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. I would talk on the subject which, I think, is very crucial for the development of the country. But, I would like to take a different track from what the hon. Members have taken. They are more knowledgeable. But, I would like to look at it as two types of problems. There are basically two problems. We have already an installed capacity of over 80,000 MW. We are probably short by 8 or 9 or 10 per cent, whatever the figures are. In future we may need more installations to take care of our future needs. But, the current problem, especially in the existing power plants, is that there has been lack of management or there has been very poor management. Here, I would just like to mention a few figures in support of what is happening in Uttar Pradesh. The installed capacity in Uttar Pradesh is about 6000 MW, while they were generating 1800 MW. But, I am told that now they have gone up to 2100—2200 MW. Yet, the management of the State Electricity Board in Uttar Pradesh is very unstable. After every three months they are changing their Chairman. Every time someone comes, he is either inefficient or he is corrupt. He is replaced by someone else. Therefore, my suggestion is—and I would

like the hon. Minister to react—is it possible to have an Indian Power Service on the lines of our administrative services, so that we may have trained technocrats who are available at different places to improve the quality of management in these State Electricity Boards? I think it is very crucial because there is no reason why we are generating 40 per cent or 50 per cent or 60 per cent when we can generate much more.

Recently, I was told in America that there is a utility owned by the Government which has a capacity of 45,000 MW and they do not have single power plant which is more recent than 25 years. The average age of these power plants is 40 years. So, it is not that they are managing only new plants. They have developed techniques to keep on power plants updated and to improve the quality of the existing old plants. I do not see any reason why it cannot be done in this country. We have enough talent, but that talent has not been utilized. Also, like in other public sector companies, lack of management is prevailing in almost all our public sector electricity boards.

I further speak about Uttar Pradesh. They were talking to me that there is a shortage of funds. In a power starved State there is a question of supply and demand. I was told that total receivables in Uttar Pradesh were Rs. 3,000 crores.

On the other hand, to modernise these bad units or poor units, they require Rs. 900 crores. I said: 'What is your problem? If you have a shortage, you just take the money in advance'. I said: 'They are doing it in Maharashtra'.

Therefore, Sir, my submission is: whether we can set up training institutes. Not necessarily specialised

units. You have certain well-functioning plants, or, well-functioning State Electricity Boards, where you can bring people from the badly-managed units and see that they are trained in these places, in order to improve the management of the badly run Electricity Boards.

Sir, due to want of time, I cannot dwell at length on this issue. If these suggestions are carried out, I think we can considerably improve the power situation.

In the end, there is just one point I would like to make. It is that, during the past five years, the hardware for the power generating units internationally is in a buyers' market. The prices, all over the world, are 50—60 per cent less than what they used to be. They are available freely. There is a surplus. There is no market in those countries. India is a potential market for these sellers. Therefore, we can get this hardware generating sets, on our terms. I know, for instance, that if a 1 MW or a 2 MW unit is going to be put up, it is going to cost Rs. 1.6 crores per MW. Whereas, when we are talking of a 500 MW project, we talk of Rs. 4.5 crores per MW. I do not know why this disparity is there. You can set up a 1 MW or a 2 MW or a 5 MW unit at an average cost of Rs. 1.6 crores per MW.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY (Tamil Nadu) Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir.

Our power generation capacity during the Eighth Five-Year Plan was 30,538 MW. But the actual generation was found to be just 20,730 MW. This results in power-cut to the tune of 30 per cent. In spite of this limited generation, we have been wasting a large quantity of power

through unscientific and out-moded methods of transmission and distribution. It is said that our transmission and distribution loss is 30 per cent more than what it is in the USA.

It is encouraging that the Government has set a target of 3,000 MW of power generation through renewable sources of energy during the Ninth Plan. My only concern in this regard is whether the Government would be able to attract private sector participation in this area. I say this because the private sector is more interested in the area of conventional sources of energy like thermal and atomic, as they can earn more profit from these projects. I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten the House as to how he is going to mobilise resources in order to achieve the target.

Having said this, I wish to make a few points regarding the power situation in Tamil Nadu.

The hydel potential in Tamil Nadu has been fully utilised. The hydel projects have been completed. Therefore, in future, the power generation in Tamil Nadu has to be from the thermal and nuclear sources, gas-based projects, and from non-conventional sources. Any new hydel project is possible only if the surplus waters of the west-flowing rivers of Kerala are harnessed and diverted to Tamil Nadu.

The Central Government has been silent on this matter for a long time. I would appeal to the good sense of the hon. Minister for Power to prevail upon the Water Resources Minister for formulating a scheme so that we could have more hydel projects in Tamil Nadu as well as in Kerala.

Sir, I am sorry to say that the National Thermal Power Corporation has been concentrating more in the North, for setting up thermal power plants. The NTPC has spent over Rs. 20,000 crores so far, with generation capacity of 15,000 MW. They are generating about 80 crore units of electricity. The NTPC has been in existence since 1975. But I do not know why it has left out Tamil Nadu. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has said in a meeting of the National Development Council that the Centre should assist the State in setting up coal-based power projects in Tamil Nadu.

Sir, the last point is that the DMK Government in Tamil Nadu is providing free electricity to all farmers. This is a major reason for the Green Revolution in Tamil Nadu. Some people in Delhi have been trying to put pressure on the State not to provide free electricity to the farmers.

I wish to ask of the hon. Minister whether the loss made due to providing free electricity is not made good by the bumper crops being raised by the farmers? The agricultural income is more than the loss suffered in providing electricity. So, we must remember one thing. If electricity is not provided free to the farmers, it is not just the farmers who would be affected, but the whole nation will be affected.

Lastly, I will make one point. The Kodiyankulam Power Project has been hanging ever since 1988. After the fall of the USSR, the project did not move. The Government has already spent more than Rs. 5 crores on this project. This project is estimated to generate 1,000 mg. of electricity. It was said that France wanted to take up the project but that the Centre was silent.

Sir, this is my last sentence. It was said that France wanted to take up this Project but that the Centre was

silent. Because of the Chernobyl tragedy, the people have some apprehension about the Project. Therefore, the Government should see that the Project is completely safe.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as I have rightly mentioned from the Chair, This is not going to be a debate but only clarifications will be sought on the statement made by the hon. Minister. I do not think that I can swallow my own words now. So, I will have to be very brief.

What is ailing our economy is the poor infrastructure in our country. The prime culprit in this is the power sector. For any country to develop, industrially, the main input is power. We have seen how we have miserably failed everywhere. If we see the record of the Eighth Five-Year Plan, the target was 30,537.7 mw, and what we actually achieved was only 16,422.6 mw. That means that our achievement is only 53.78 per cent and that there was a deficit of 46 per cent.

If any good has happened in the relation between India and Pakistan in this Golden Jubilee Year is that we are going to have power from our neighbouring country, Pakistan. I think this is the only silver lining in the relation between India and Pakistan. I hope that it will materialise. I think that it will be a step forward in improving the bilateral relations between these two countries. I am happy about that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ADHTK SHIRODKAR): I hope we are not in for a shock on that account.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: That is for the South Block to say.

We have seen the projection of the Ninth Five-Year Plan which commenced on the 1st of April, 1997.

The peak demand for the Ninth Five-Year Plan is 95,757 mw. The requirement is 569.65 billion units. The estimated capacity addition will be 57,737 mw. As assessed by the Planning Commission, I don't think that we will be able to add 57,000 mw. What is going to be feasible is only 40,245 MW.

We have often debated this in this House. Motives have also been attributed to technocrats and bureaucrats. In case there is a shortfall, we have to rush to foreign countries. You know that we have signed a number of MOUs for your State, Maharashtra. We have been debating that point in connection with Enron. Sir, we had also been debating on the kickbacks. I do not know whether there is a sabotage on the part of the bureaucracy. It can be from the technocrats and from the politicians also to see that the capacity of power in our country is sabotaged. Then you can go to the foreign countries, get the kickbacks and import the technology. The other day, when the question came up in the House, I had raised this point, because in this industry the Government gives a lot of subsidy to create infrastructure in the country, which will remain in the country. But, we have also seen in this mad gold rush. Certain foreign companies come, not with the infrastructure, but with certain turbine engines, where you put the expensive Naphtha, which has been subsidised. Naptha has been imported by the Government basically for the petroleum and the fertiliser sector. That is given to them at a heavily subsidised rate. Now, 25 companies within our country by 13 States are being licensed. One has been licensed by my own State, Goa. These companies have already signed MOUs with the State Governments with the understanding that the Centre would give them Naphtha at the prevailing rate i.e. the subsidised rate and not at

the market rate, because we are not selling Naphtha loose in the market. It is only being imported and transported to the public sector undertakings run by the Government. I do not know what will be the position. The other day the hon. Minister gave the reply to me that the Government will not give them subsidised Naphtha. They will have to go to the international market, where it is going to be very very expensive. If that is the case, the cost of that unit will be very high. Many of the public sector undertakings—for example the Marmugao Port Trust—are supposed to have a captive power unit. I do not know how they are going to do it. Will that be a coal-based unit?

Now, while they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with those private plants and the Government is withdrawing from its word, I do not know what will be the state of these 25 units, which have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with 13 States. I would like to know whether we will permit such units in the country to burn our expensive foreign exchange and take away the profit from the public and the Government. I do not think there is any firm policy before the Government. The Planning Commission also makes its own study. Its working group has mentioned about the target and the achievement. The Planning Commission has said, they are not giving a realistic figure. These are just inflated figures. I do not know how we are going to solve this problem. We do not have a foolproof policy before the nation to solve this problem. I do not think just by opening our doors to the multi-nationals we will be able to solve this problem, because they will not create infrastructure for the country, which can be retained in the country. As I said, as fly-by-night operators, they will take the profit, their machines and wind it up. I am told these turbines can be stored

in a garage. If you have a small garage in the backyard, you set up that engine there, put Naptha and sell power to the Government. So, I do not know why we do not have a foolproof policy for the power sector so that whatever is created in this country can remain in this country as an infrastructure for the industry.

श्री नरेश धादब (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, ऊर्जा की कमी पर चर्चा हो रही है। देश के लिए ऊर्जा आवश्यक है। गांव में आटे की चक्की से लेकर खेत में पानी पटाने से लेकर बड़ी-बड़ी मिलों को चलाने में ऊर्जा आवश्यक है। ऊर्जा के इस महत्व को देखते हुए इस सदन में चर्चा हो रही है। आपने मुझे इस चर्चा में हिस्सा लेने का अवसर दिया है, मैं आपके प्रति आभार प्रकट करता हूँ। चूंकि मैं बिहार से आता हूँ और जो कुछ समस्याएँ वहाँ हैं, मैं सिर्फ उन्हीं के बारे में अपनी चर्चा सीमित करना चाहता हूँ। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्र की ओर से गत पंचवर्षीय योजना में विद्युत उत्पादन के लिए बिहार को आबंटन कितने प्रतिशत किया गया है? क्या यह आबंटन जनसंख्या के हिसाब से या आर्थिक पिछड़ेपन के हिसाब से किया गया है? यह बात स्पष्ट है कि पूरे देश की आबादी का 10 प्रतिशत वहाँ रहता है। साथ ही साथ, यह भी मैं बता दूँ कि वहाँ मात्र आपने आबंटन किया है, भारत सरकार का जो विद्युत पर एलोकेशन है, उसका तीन प्रतिशत ही बिहार को दिया गया है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री जान० एफ० फर्नांडिस) पीठासीन हुए]

इसलिए हम जानना चाहेंगे आप इस मामले में नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में क्या बिहार को दे रहे हैं। महोदय, मैं यह भी जानना चाहूँगा कि नयी पंचवर्षीय योजना में क्या इस बात पर ध्यान रखा जाएगा कि अति पिछड़े एवं आबादी के हिसाब से दूसरे बड़े राज्य होने के हिसाब से बिहार को आबंटन दिया जाएगा। महोदय, हम सभी इस बात को मानेंगे कि विद्युत परियोजना का मूल ईंधन कोयला है और पूरे देश में सबसे ज्यादा कोयला बिहार में खुदाई होता है। हम यह कहना चाहेंगे कि जो एन०टी०पी०सी० की

योजना या मेगा प्रोजेक्ट के अंतर्गत सुपर थर्मल पावर लगाए जा रहे हों उनको कोयला क्षेत्र के आस पास ही लगाया जाए जिससे कि वहाँ कोयले के ट्रांसपोर्टेशन में अधिक खर्च नहीं हो क्योंकि कोयले के ट्रांसपोर्टेशन में जितना खर्च है बिजली के ले जाने में उतना खर्च नहीं है। हम इस माध्यम से आपसे यह आग्रह करना चाहेंगे कि जहाँ जहाँ कोयले का भंडार होता है, जहाँ कोयला मिनरल या खनिज हो वहीं पर सुपर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन लगाए जाए। इस मामले में बिहार पर ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाए जिससे कि बिजली का उत्पादन अधिक हो और हम वहाँ से बिजली का सम्प्रेषण या ट्रांसपोर्टेशन पूरे देश में कर सकें। बिहार के बारे में आपने चर्चा की थी, माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने भी की थी। बिहार के प्रति इन्होंने रुचि दिखायी है इसलिए हम उनके प्रति आभारी हैं।

मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि एक मेगा-वाट में, जैसे अभी बताया गया कि चार करोड़ की लागत आती है, उसी तरह से अगर हम रिनोवेशन करते हैं तो मुश्किल से एक करोड़ रुपया प्रति मेगावाट के हिसाब से लागत आती है जैसे कि हरियाणा सरकार ने कर दिया गया है। रिनोवेशन करके 27 परसेंट से 80-90 परसेंट तक उत्पादन बढ़े गए हैं... (सनय की घंटी) उसी तरह से हम कहना चाहेंगे कि नये नये प्लांट लगाने में काफी समय लगता है जो पुराने प्लांट हैं उनका रिनोवेशन करके यथाशीघ्र उन्हें बिजली के उत्पादन में लगाएं। आपने स्वीकार किया है कि अभी भी बिजली की कमी पूरे देश में है। हम पूछना चाहेंगे कि ट्रांसमिशन और वितरण के मिशिंग लिंक को जोड़ने के लिए क्या सरकार के पास कोई योजना है जिससे कि हम विद्युत दे सकें, वह बरबाद नहीं हो सके जैसे कि कहलगांव में इसके अभाव में हम विद्युत को नहीं भेज पाते हैं क्योंकि सम्प्रेषण की उचित व्यवस्था नहीं है। इसलिए आपके पास इसके लिए क्या योजना है।

आर० ई० सी० योजना के अंतर्गत माननीय मंत्री जी ने दो दिन पहले यह बताया कि बिहार में 46-47 हजार गांवों में विद्युतीकरण हो गया है। मैं स्पष्ट करना

चाहता हूँ कि मात्र 50 परसेंट से कम ही गांवों में बिहार में विद्युतीकरण हो पाया है। विद्युतीकरण का मतलब होता है पोल, तार, ट्रांसफार्मर और कनेक्शन। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि जहां पोल हैं वहां तार नहीं है, जहां तार हैं वहां ट्रांसफार्मर नहीं हैं। जहां सब कुछ कंफ्लोट है वहां कनेक्शन नहीं दिए गए हैं जिसके कारण आज 50 परसेंट से भी कम गांवों में विद्युतीकरण हो सका है। अतः इस हेतु में आप गांवों में विद्युतीकरण करने के लिए क्या प्रतिरिक्त राशि बिहार को आवंटित करने जा रहे हैं जिससे कि सन् 2 हजार तक जो राज्य सरकार का फैसला है कि पूरे 100 परसेंट गांवों में विद्युतीकरण हो जाएगा, वह हो सके। पूरे देश में यह केवल 8 प्रदेशों में ही पूरा का पूरा हो सका है।

महोदय, मैं अंत में एक दो बातें कहकर समाप्त करना चाहता हूँ। एक बहुत गंभीर बात है। राज्य सरकार का लगभग 923 करोड़ रुपये का भारत सरकार के विभिन्न ढेरों में बकाया पड़ा हुआ है। आपका भी बकाया हो सकता है। लेकिन आप उस बकाया पर कोई ऋण हमको नहीं दे रहे हैं। बिहार सरकार ने केन्द्र सरकार से आग्रह किया है कि 923 करोड़ रुपये का उन्हें यथाशीघ्र गतान करें जिससे बिहार के विद्युत बोर्ड की बकाया पड़ी हुई योजनाएं पूरी हो सकें।

कोयलकारो योजना के बारे में बात की गयी। जब बिहार सरकार ने सारी शर्तें आपकी मान ली हैं जो आपने कहा सारी शर्तों को मान लिया है....। तब फिर आज तक कोयलकारो योजना क्यों लंबित है? और एक बात कह कर हम चाहेंगे कि भारत सरकार ने जिस तरह महाकाल योजना को स्वीकार किया है उसी तरह से अगर उत्तर पूर्वी भारत में बिजुत की कमी को दूर करना चाहते हैं तो कोसी का जो गोरिजनेटिंग प्वायंट है वह क्षेत्र जहां से कोसी निकलती है बराह क्षत्र में और वहां नेपाल सरकार से बातें करके हम चाहेंगे कि वहां भी एक हाइड्रो प्रोजेक्ट लगाया जाए जिससे कि बिजली संकट दूर हो सके।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, may I raise one point?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Yes.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Now only we have seen that the Appropriation Bill on Railways is proposed to be taken up today. I have requested the secretary-General and also Mrs. Natarajan to have it like this. In the Business Advisory Committee, two hours have been allotted for the discussion. There are a number of issues which we would like to discuss on the Railways. But, after 5 o'clock, we cannot sit today. We have a number of meetings. All of a sudden, the speaker has called a meeting and I have to participate in that. I am sorry, I have to request them not to insist that this Appropriation Bill on Railways should be returned today. That should not be insisted upon. You have already agreed for two hours. You may have it introduced today. But the discussion can be tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Sir, whatever the senior leader says is absolutely true. Two hours are allotted for it and I appreciate that he would like to contribute to the discussion also. The only problem is—I place it before the House through you, Sir—tomorrow, the Finance Bill and the Appropriation Bill have to be passed. That will be passed by the Lok Sabha and will come here tomorrow. Tomorrow, we also have to pass the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Ordinance into a Bill. That will also come up tomorrow. And tomorrow is the only

day we are left with. We have to adjourn by 6 o'clock tomorrow because the Mid-Night Session will be at 12 o'clock. Unless the discussion on the Railway Appropriation Bill is taken up today, it may be difficult for us to find time, for all these things, tomorrow. That is why I am pleading with Chavan Saheb to kindly allow the discussion to go on and sit late to finish it.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: But, after participating in the different meetings that have been fixed already, there is no possibility. It is impossible for us to attend those meetings and come back. That is why I am requesting the Chair to kindly consider this aspect and to see that Members are not denied their right to participate in the Railway Appropriation Bill discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I think we will not rush through it. Let the hon. Minister come here. Let him introduce the Bill. Then I will take the sense of the House whether they can continue the discussion today and complete it tomorrow.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: We have to go.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAIAN: I certainly see the problem. I am not at all disagreeing with you. But the issue is that we will have to pass the Bill. You have to appreciate the importance of passing the Appropriation Bill.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: The discussion is equally important.

श्री लक्ष्मीराम अग्रवाल (मध्य प्रदेश): वाइस चैयरमैन साहब, रेलवे पर चर्चा कल होनी चाहिए। आज ले हो जाए, कल चर्चा हो जाएगी।

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAIAN: I respectfully agree. My problem is this. I would request that the

others who are here can continue with this and those who want to participate tomorrow can also participate tomorrow. We will save time by that. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I think I will take the sense of the House when the Minister comes here. Let the Railway Minister come. (*Interruptions*). Now, Smt. Urmilaben Patel.

श्रीमती उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल: (गुजरात) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बहुत लंबी बात करने के बजाय प्वायंट्स ही आपके सामने रखना चाहूंगी। यह सब डिसकस हो गया है कि 8वीं योजना में हम जितनी बिजली प्रोड्यूस करना चाहते थे उतनी नहीं कर पाए। नौवीं योजना में जैसे देश का विकास बढ़ता रहता है, औद्योगिक विकास बढ़ता है, एग्रीकल्चर में भी विकास होता है तो बिजली की आवश्यकता और बढ़ जाती है। लेकिन कमन-सेन्स यह है कि एक तरफ बिजली की मांग बढ़ती जाती है और दूसरी तरफ मांग के लिए जो जरूरी उत्पादन करना चाहिए वह हम नहीं कर पाते हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि देश में ऐसे कितने पॉवर प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं जिनका काम बंद पड़ा है? ये पॉवर प्रोजेक्ट्स अगर समय से तैयार हो गए होते तो कितनी ज्यादा बिजली हमें मिलती और जितना बिजली खर्च हमें उस पर उठाना पड़ रहा है, वह नहीं उठाना पड़ता। महोदय मैं यह भी पूछना चाहूंगी कि ये बंद पड़े हुए प्रोजेक्ट्स कब पूरे होंगे? कोई टाइम-बाउंड शेड्यूल पॉवर मिनिस्टर इसके लिए दे सकते हैं? दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि हमारे जैसे गरीब देश को सस्ती बिजली चाहिए और जब बिजली के दाम बढ़ते रहते हैं तो जिम्मेदार लोग भी एजीटेशन कर रहे हैं। ऐसे समय में अगर हमें सस्ती बिजली चाहिए तो देश में हायडल बिजली सब से सस्ती हो सकती है। हमारे यहां हायडल बिजली का पोटेंशियल 84 हजार मेगावाट का है जिसका हम 25 परसेंट से कम यूटिलाइजेशन कर पाए हैं इसमें और बहुत सी गुंजाइश है। तो क्या पॉवर मिनिस्टर यह बतायेंगे कि इसे एक्स-

प्लांट करने के लिए उन्होंने क्या ध्यान किया है और क्या इस बारे में कोई इन्सैटिव्स दिए जा रहे हैं? क्या प्राइवेट एजेंसीज के इस में शरीक होने के लिए क्या कोई खास प्रोग्राम तय किया है? अगर किया है तो वह क्या और कब उसका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन करेंगे?

दुसरे जितना इम्पोर्टेंस पावर जनरेशन का है, उतनी ही जरूरी बात इसके ट्रांसमिशन और डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की होती है, लेकिन जितना ध्यान ट्रांसमिशन और डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की ओर देना चाहिए, उतना हम नहीं देते हैं। इस का कारण यह है कि जो सिस्टम है, वह पुराना सिस्टम है और मॉडर्न टेक्नोलॉजी का जो यूटिलाइजेशन होना चाहिए, वह हम नहीं कर पाते हैं जिस कारण इसमें जो सन्ध-सन्ध पर सुधार होना चाहिए वे सुधार नहीं हो सका है। इस वजह से हमें पाँचर लॉस भी ज्यादा होना है। अगर हमें उसे ठीक करना है तो एच० ई० बी० को स्ट्रिप्शन करना बहुत जरूरी है। महोदय, हम जानते हैं कि हमारे एस० ई० बी० बैकरी की के नजदीक पहुंच गए हैं। हरेक स्टेट में यह समस्या बनी हुई है। इसके लिए अगर हम एस० ई० बी० को पावर फायनेंस कार्पोरेशन की ओर से कम सूद पर लॉग टर्म लोन देंगे तो वह रेनोवेशन और मॉडर्नाइजेशन के प्रोग्राम हाथ में ले सकते हैं और अपने सिस्टम को सुधार सकते हैं। महोदय, आज 15-16 परसेंट पर पी० एफ० सीज० लोन दे रहे हैं, अगर हम इसे 11-12 परसेंट पर दें और बीच में जो 5 परसेंट का घाटा है, वह घाटा देने के लिए सरकार जिम्मेदारी उठाए तो हम कम दाम में एस० ई० बी० को पैसा दे सकेंगे और जो प्रोजेक्ट्स वह मॉडर्नाइजेशन/रेनोवेशन के देंगे उस के लिए वह खुशी से पी० एफ० सीज० के पैसों का उपयोग कर सकते हैं। आज पी० एफ० सीज० के पास पैसों पड़े हैं, स्कीम पड़ी हैं, लेकिन सूद के कारण उसे एस० ई० बी० उठा नहीं पाती हैं और वह आर्थिक मनी जैसा पड़ा रहता है। इस संबंध में अगर कोई कार्यक्रम तय किया जाए तो ठीक रहेगा, ऐसा मैं मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करती हूँ।

अंत में मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि हमारे यहां कोई निश्चित, सुसंगठित और सुसंरक्षित फायनल पॉलिसी नहीं है। डिपार्टमेंट्स के बीच में कोई कोऑर्डिनेशन नहीं है। एक तरफ कोल डिपार्टमेंट है, दूसरी तरफ पेट्रो-लियम, तीसरी तरफ रेलवे और चौथी तरफ पावर मिनिस्ट्री है। इन सबके बीच-बीच में जो कोऑर्डिनेशन होना चाहिए, वह कोऑर्डिनेशन नहीं होता है। परिणामस्वरूप जब कोल मिलता है तो रेक्स नहीं मिलते हैं, जब रेक्स अवेलेबल होते हैं तो कोल नहीं होता है। ऑइल गुजरात में होता है और नांदेन स्टेट्स को पाइप-लाइंस से दिया जाता है और गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र या राजस्थान को थर्मल पावर प्रोजेक्ट के लिए बिहार या मध्य प्रदेश से कोयला लेना पड़ता है। तो यह स्थिति है कि ज्यादा सभन की बर्बादी होती है, पैसों की ज्यादा बर्बादी होती है, ज्यादा सधनों की बर्बादी होती है और टैरिफ का खर्च होता है, बीच में कोयला चोरी होने की भी पूरी गुंजाइश रहती है। जहां पर कोयला मिलता है, अगर वहीं पर थर्मल पावर प्लांट हों और जहां पर अयल मिलता है, वहां पर अयल के पावर प्रोजेक्ट्स हों, जहां पर गैस मिलता है, वहां गैस के प्रोजेक्ट्स हों और पावर या अगर सही ट्रांसमिशन किया जाए तो इसमें सभन की, एनर्जी की, पैसों की बचत होगी। मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या सरकार इस बारे में सोचेंगी, क्या प्लानिंग कर रहे हैं मंत्री जी, अगर वे बताएं तो ठीक रहेगा।

मैं आपको एक उदाहरण देकर बताना चाहती हूँ और फिर अपना आपण समाप्त करूंगी। जैसे मैंने यहां भी रेज किया था और न्यूज पेपर्स में भी आया कि गुजरात में चार जगहों पर गैस प्लांट्स मिले हैं। इनमें से 22 लाख टन गैस यूटिलाइजेशन के लिए बनाई गई, एच० बी० जे० पाइपलाइन में डाली गई, वह उत्तर प्रदेश में जाती है। पहल भी जब यहां हजीरा है, गांधार है, पीपंध्राप है, इन पावर प्रोजेक्ट्स को गैस नहीं दिया जाता है और गैस उत्तर प्रदेश चली जाती है। तो लोगों के दिमाग में स्वाभाविक तौर पर यह आया कि जो यहां होता है, उसको वहां भेजने में इसमें क्या फाइनेंशियल वाइबिलिटी आ जाती है, क्या बैटर, चीपर

वहां पर बिजली उत्पन्न होती है, तो ये सब कंटेंट्स भी इसमें पड़े हैं, तो इनके बारे में भी सोचा जाए और निश्चित पॉलिसी तय करके पूरे देश की पावर प्रोडक्शन प्लानिंग, पावर जनरेशन प्लानिंग इस तरह से बढ़ाई जाए और ट्रांसमिशन व डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन लाइन पावर ग्रिड के जरिए ऐसे की जाएं जिससे कि हम हर स्टेट को उसकी जरूरत के मुताबिक बिजली दे सकें।

आज परिस्थिति यह है कि इस्टर्न स्टेट्स में पावर उपलब्ध है और हम वेस्टर्न स्टेट्स को नहीं दे पाते, सवन स्टेट्स को नहीं दे पाते। अगर प्रांर पावर डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम डेवलप किया जाएगा तो जो सरप्लस पावर है, उसका भी हम यूटिलाइजेशन कर सकेंगे।

तो मैंने यह दो-चार मुद्दे आपके जरिए विचार के लिए रखे हैं और मैं समझती हूँ कि मंत्री जो इनका जवाब देंगे, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, उसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Now I will call Mr. Parag Chaliha. Just one Minute. The Railway Minister wants to say something.

रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): सर, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि रेलवे एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल पर चर्चा आज होगी या कल?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Hon. Minister, there is a suggestion that certain Members want to speak. They are not here, for example, Chavan Sahib. We will have it tomorrow. You can move the Bill today. If there is time we can resume the debate or we can discuss it tomorrow. (Interruptions)... The hon. Minister has some other engagement. He is taking the permission of the Chair to move the Bill. We can discuss it tomorrow. He has a meeting. He has to go. He can move it today. We can discuss it tomorrow.

THE APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) No. 4 BILL, 1997

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was proposed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I think we can debate it tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Sir, I seek your indulgence. The Minister has agreed because the hon. Chavan Sahib is particular. I would like the House to consider all the three Bills, the Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, the General Budget Appropriation Bill and the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Bill. Could you please mention that we have to pass the three Bills tomorrow? The Members should co-operate with minimum discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I cannot give any direction to the House. It is for the House to decide.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: I am only asking you, Sir, to convey to the Members.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): They will be put if the House so desires. Without putting any pre-condition on your salaries and allowances we can pass these Bills. That is the assurance which the Minister is asking for. (Interruptions)...