

the country. At present, Doordarshan has a network of 31 Programme Production Centres and 553 transmitters of both high and low power in the country.

M
adam, Doordarshan has been trying to achieve the ambitious target of commissioning a number of Satellite channels, giving a wide coverage to all the major national and international happenings in: areas like sports, culture, politics, entertainment, business and so on and so forth. But, unfortunately, the Ministry has closed its eyes to the quality of the instruments and equipment like camera and other electronic apparatus which record and transmit various programmes. In this context, I am sorry to cite the example of Cuttack Doordarshan Centre. This TV Centre has unfortunately become a dumping ground of all the old and out dated equipment. Some time back, due to this equipment, the programmes telecast from this Centre could not be viewed clearly. The screens of the TV sets in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar became extremely hazy and clumsy. This led to a lot of resentment among the TV viewers. If you compare the picture quality of a programme telecast in Delhi with a programme at Cuttack Doordarshan you can easily find the difference. The picture quality of the programmes of Cuttack Doordarshan is bad and of very low standard. I do not blame the technicians and cameraman for this problem. It is not a human failure but a machine failure. The sub-standard and outdated electronic equipments like camera etc. by which various programmes are recorded and transmitted are responsible for this. The T. V. Centre at Cuttack is not a full-fledged centre. It is only a transmitting centre. The recording studio is located at Bhubaneswar which is 30 Km away from Cuttack. Perhaps, there is lack of coordination between them.

I urge upon the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting who hails from Orissa to look into this problem personally and take necessary action to

solve it. Here I take the opportunity to urge upon the Minister to install a full-fledged T. V. Centre at the State capital, Bhubaneswar. This has been a long-standing demand of the people of Orissa. Thank you.

Polyester based X-ray Plant in Hindustan Photo Films In Tamil Nadu

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU (Bihar): I wish to bring to the kind notice of the House as well as to the notice of the hon. Industry Minister, who is sitting here, that a multi-crore public sector undertaking which is under the Ministry of Industry, Government of India, is likely to be scrapped for want of funds.

As the House is aware, the only public sector in India, that is, Hindustan Photo Films, manufacturing photo films was set up in 1961. It is unique in its type and size. The purpose of setting up this public sector undertaking was to manufacture medical X-ray films, cine films and photographic paper. This industry employs 4100 persons and the population of the Nilgiri District of Tamil Nadu is dependent on this public sector undertaking for their livelihood.

Unlike other public sector undertakings, this undertaking has been a profitable concern. But what has happened is, it has started giving losses due to shortage of funds. In 1986, the Hindustan Photo Films commenced setting up a subsidiary unit called Polyester-based X-ray Plant in Ooty with the collaboration of Dupont, USA. The project, cost of Rs. 290 crores has now escalated to Rs. 480 crores, mainly due to financial factors. The current Budget provides only Rs. 40 crores for this project which is a very meagre amount. Ninety-eight per cent of the project is complete and only electronic control systems are to be installed. If the project is completed, its value will increase by Rs. 163 crores, and the barest minimum amount required during the current financial year to commission this project is about Rs. 45 crores only.

I, therefore, request that necessary funds should be provided immediately so that this valuable project is not abandoned and the project is not sold as scrap. Our medical services are actually suffering for want of X-ray films, and the import will increase if this project is not allowed to be completed. Hence, I request the Government of India to look into this matter so that this project is not scrapped.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): A Committee was set up consisting of Secretaries of the Finance Department, Heavy Industry and the Economic Adviser. The Committee of four Secretaries visited Ooty and submitted its report to the Central Government in which they said, *inter alia*, that the Government should immediately provide Rs. 175 crores. They made this recommendation. Out of that amount, the Government of India sanctioned only Rs. 40 crores.

While I associate myself with what has been stated by Shri Sahu through his Special Mention, I request the Government of India, through you, to release the balance amount of Rs. 135 crores immediately and send that it reaches Ooty for development of this project. The whole Nilgiri area is dependent on this industry.

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI (Tamil Nadu): I also associate myself with what has been said about this project. For production of X-ray films this project was taken up and nearly Rs 400 crores were required. Madam, this project is not taking off due to non-allotment of funds by the Centre. This is very much necessary for protecting the interests of the 4,1000 workers there and their families. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to grant Rs. 300 crores for this project. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Shri Gopalrao Vitthalrao Patil. Please conclude within two-three minutes.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR (Uttar Pradesh): This is his maiden speech. Madam. Therefore, please give hint a few more minute*.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

SHRI GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL (Maharashtra): I will be a disciplined parliamentarian.

Madam Vice-Chairman, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the House a very important subject of national importance, which is there on the agenda as the prime issue. It would continue to be so today, tomorrow, and the day after. That is why I have chosen it as the subject of my maiden speech, in the form of this Special Mention.

Nuclear non-proliferation has attracted the attention of the whole nation. I would like to mention three-four things in this august House. Madam, our nation has made tremendous progress in this field since 1974, when we tested a nuclear weapon and surprised the whole world that India could do it. Now, the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Shri R Chidambaram, says that we have attained extraordinary capability in nuclear technology and that there is nothing that could not be done here, in India, so far as nuclear weapons are concerned.

Whatever advantages our scientists have gained should not be lost through our political failures. I would like to point out here that there are 8 research reactors and 9 power reactors which are generating 1750 MW of electricity. The spent fuel from this can also be used. India has attained the capability in relation to fast breeder reactors. The spent fuel can be used in these fast breeder reactors. This is a very important technology we have developed. The spent fuel is plutonium and it can be used directly for the purpose of manufacture of nuclear weapons.