

SHRI MATI REJUKA CHOWDRORY: I think whatever difference of opinion we may have, the Minister must be congratulated for his courage of conviction, the zeal, the flair and absolute transparent sincerity. I wish him all the best and I am sure his Ministry will deliver the goods.

श्री पर्वतनेनि उपेन्द्र (आंध्र प्रदेश): मैडम, जब हम सरकार में थे कभी मुंह नहीं खुलते थे। ये लोग कभी मुंह नहीं खोलते थे, जब हम सरकार में थे। इतना छुपा रुस्तम कैसे निकले हैं लोग?

उपसभापति: यह तो सोचने की बात है, परखने की बात है। ... (व्यवधान) वह कह रहे हैं, हमारे माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं कि यह छुपा रुस्तम कहां से निकला। यह पहले तो चुपचाप बैठा रहता था। मैंने कहा कि यह तो परखने की बात है। ... (व्यवधान)

Now we will take up special mentions. Shri Md. Salim.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH: The House is to adjourn at 6 o'clock.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया: मैडम, आज दोपहर को लंच आवर सस्पेंड कर दिया गया था।

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम, हम लोगों का भोजन छूट गया था। ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : स्पेशल मेशन, जिसको स्पेशल मेशन करना हो कर लेने दीजिए। स्पेशल मेशन जितने हो जाएंगे ठीक है। ... (व्यवधान) आज इसमें बहुत समय लग गया है। ... (व्यवधान)

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय: हो सकता है कि अगली बार जब आप बैठें तो नई सरकार फिर बैठे?.. (व्यवधान)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us have special mentions and then adjourn the House.

It is quarter to six. Let us finish this.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH (Maharashtra): Special mentions tomorrow, Madam.

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय: मैडम, सदस्यों का आग्रह भी मान लिया कीजिए।

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): Madam, we have gone without lunch.

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय: मैडम, हाउस एडजर्न कराइए।

उपसभापति: पाण्डेय जी, अभी लोकसभा से एक मैसेज आ रहा है। उसका तो इंतजार करना ही पड़ेगा। तो खाली तो बैठ नहीं सकते, हाउस में। इसलिए स्पेशल मेशन जितने हो जाते हैं, हो जाएं ... (व्यवधान) ... आपका बाद में आएगा।

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय: मैडम, हमारा कल पर रख दीजिए।

उपसभापति: अच्छा।

## SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand for Clearance of 500 MW Thermal Power Project at Budge Budge at Calcutta

SHRI MOHD. SALIM (West Bengal): Madam Deputy Chairman, the gap between demand and supply of power throughout the country is a widely accepted fact. The important reason behind this gap ever increasing is our failure to foresee the ever-increasing demand for power and adopt suitable projects in time with early clearance from the appropriate authority and time-bound implementation of the projects.

In West Bengal, the shortage of electricity is one of the most publicized issues whereas when it comes to the question of solving the problem through appropriate projects to increase the power generation, the people of West Bengal have seen gross discrimination and dilly-dallying tactics on the part of the Central Government and its different agencies. Now it is an established truth that one of the major factors behind the shortfall of power supply in West Bengal is the refusal of timely clearance to the power projects put forward by the Left Front Government for the last 14 years. It was only during the short tenure of the National Front Government at the Centre that some of the projects have seen the light of day, for example, the Bakreswar Thermal Power Project.

Madam, today I rise to raise the demand for the clearance of a \*500 MW thermal power project of the Calcutta

[Shri Mohd. Solim] Electric Supply Corporation at Budge Budge in south suburban Calcutta. This Project, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,278 crores, is awaiting the green signal from the Central Electricity Authority. The Union Government has nothing to do with the investment: The Asian Development Bank has already agreed to give financial assistance. The Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation is also in a position to mobilize internal resources.

Earlier also the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation had to wait for about four years to obtain the sanction, merely for a modernization plan like replacement of a boiler at its Southern Generating Centre, during the period of the last Congress Government.

Only the day before yesterday the honourable Energy Minister has informed the other House that along with this project of 500 MW at Budge Budge, four other power projects are lying with the Union government for techno-economic clearance. These are, (1) the Sagardighi thermal power project of 1000 MW (2) the Balgarh thermal power project of 630 MW and two hydroelectric projects of Farakka and Ramman with a capacity of 125 MW and 36 MW respectively.

Madam, while the Union Government is not going to bear any financial responsibility of a project It has no right to delay or withhold the sanction in the name of examining the techno-economic aspects, particularly when delay of each day means additional cost of crores of rupees for the concerned project. Apart from this, delay means further aggravating the existing crisis and jeopardizing the State Government's plan to come out of the situation.

The Budge Budge power project has already obtained clearance from the Environment Ministry, the West Bengal State Pollution Control Board, the Calcutta Port Trust, the Geological Survey of India, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, MRTTP and, above all, the Union Power Department.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Otherwise I am going to apply MRTTP on your speech.

SHRI MOHD. SALIM: Madam, it is surprising that while the site of the project is linked with the coal belt by an already existing broad gauge rail track, the Energy Minister is putting forward the argument of lack of a coal supply line. This is the very same reason which has withheld the Sagardighi power project.

I demand immediate clearance of the project.

Thank you, Madam.

### **Need For Promoting Communal Harmony in Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI (Uttar Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, if one or two sentences from what I say have been heard before, I hope I will be forgiven.

Everyone is aware that India's largest State, Uttar Pradesh, possessing a history of friendship and partnership between Hindus and Muslims, has been witnessing incident after incident of communal killing. Something has to be done before the fear, suspicion and enmity become permanent, before every village and town in the State becomes a theatre of mental or physical conflict.

While fully appreciating the tension under which the police forces work and the conscientious, difficult and often courageous role that police personnel play, let us take serious note of the lack of trust of the minority community in the PAC of Uttar Pradesh. When the protectors are feared, the situation truly calls for concern. Yet it does not look as if the Central and the U.P. Governments will take remedial action in time. I fervently hope that I am proved wrong.

Through this House we may appeal, not just to the authorities but also to the citizens, journalists and cassette-makers that they do not spread anything other than established facts and that they