

He further said:

He told the Legislative Assembly that both, the prime minister and the then railway minister T. A. Pai had openly talked of these projects. In fact while on a tour of scarcity areas, the prime minister had announced on January 7 at Achegaon in Sholapur district that the centre had taken a decision to undertake the Konkan railway and three other railway projects in Maharashtra.

This was stated by the Prime Minister. Now I will draw your attention to the utter irresponsible statement made by Shri Baliga, Chairman of the Railway Board, who says that the Railway Board was not aware of the Prime Minister's announcement of these projects. I take very strong exception to the utterances of Shri Baliga who has stated that he has not read that at all whereas Shri T. A. Pai, the then Railway Minister, had already initiated discussion. I want to draw the attention of the Prime Minister to this through you and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs so that proper steps will be taken to take up these railway lines which were already announced by the Prime Minister. Otherwise, it will reflect very badly on the administration of the Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): I would request the hon. Member that instead of referring to the Statement made by Shri Baliga, he should refer to the speech of the hon. Railway Minister which he made on the floor of the House and particularly to paragraph 41 in which he said: "I intend to discuss with my colleagues, the Finance and Planning Ministers, how we can initiate new railway projects and new lines upto 60 kilometers".

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: What does it mean?

SHRI OM MEHTA: I am sure that the hon. Railway Minister will make a statement in the near future—most probably on Monday—about all these things.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ut-tar Pradesh): I did not want to speak. What Shri Om Mehta has said makes the matter worse. In spite of the speech of the Railway Minister—Shri Baliga, or whoever he is, I do not know who he is—the Railway Board Chairman publicly makes a statement that he does not know anything about the assurance given by the Prime Minister. It is a very agonising situation. I do not know whether the policies are guided by the Prime Minister, or Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra or the Railway Board Chairman. Is he a super-Minister? I think the Railway Minister should make a statement on this. How can a Railway Board Chairman make a public statement against the statement of the Prime Minister or the Railway Minister? It is a question of decorum and decency and there must be some method of functioning in the Government and it is a matter of procedure and if these matters are not settled, I don't think that this Government would be going in the right direction. Mr. Deputy Chairman, we would like to have a clarification as to on what authority the Chairman of the Railway Board made this statement.

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON (Kerala): Yes, Sir, this must be made clear.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, let us take up the Resolution.

**RESOLUTION RE SETTING UP A NATIONAL POWER FUEL AND FEEDSTOCK PLANNING BOARDS IN THE STATES AND AT THE CENTRE**

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN (Mysore): Sir, I beg to move:

[Shri Maqsood Ali Khan.]

"That this House, being deeply concerned at the present shortage of fuel and power in the country, which has resulted in serious setback to the industrial, agricultural and transport development, recommends that the Central Government may set up a National Power, Fuel and Feedstock Planning Board to co-ordinate the studies and efforts of different agencies working in this field at different levels in the States and at the Centre and to draw up a phased programme to achieve national self-sufficiency in oil, gas, coal, atomic and hydro-power and also to function as an advisory body to the Cabinet."

Sir, we all know that we are passing through a period of great power crisis in this country now. The Report of the Irrigation & Power Ministry for the year 1971-72 stated that in the year 1970-71 the power condition in the country was satisfactory excepting one or two States here and there. But, today, Sir, we are faced with such a situation that everywhere there is a cry for power and we are unable to get power. Sir, I may say that this phenomenon is not restricted to India only at the present juncture. In fact, in other parts of the world, for example, in the USA, people are undergoing an acute shortage of power. The world magazines like the "Time" and the "Newsweek", which were got up in January, give us an idea of how the shortage has occurred there also. Sir, I would request the Government to take a realistic view of the situation and to prepare itself for the coming years.

So far as the present power shortage is concerned, if I start from the South, Tamil Nadu is a State which is renowned for its industrial development and for its agricultural output and very recently it has cut its power by about 65 per cent, if I am not mistaken, though this cut is a bit staggered in respect of industries and in respect of domestic consumers.

Mysore has a cut of 25 per cent which is unprecedented in its history; Andhra Pradesh has a cut of 25 per cent; West Bengal has a cut of 15 per cent; Haryana has a cut of about 50 to 60 per cent; Punjab 40 per cent; Gujarat 25 per cent; and UP, which started with 25 per cent, is now having a cut of 40 per cent. There are a few States which do not have any cut whatsoever. But they are also not sure whether they would be able to give this power up to June or July when the monsoons sets in.

Sir, it was made out very clearly in this House about two days back by the honourable Minister for Irrigation and Power that the country is passing through a power crisis and it is not on account of any faulty planning or mismanagement, but it is mostly on account of shortfall in rains. We have been told, and it is true also, that two-thirds of the country is in the grip of drought now. The water level in different reservoirs and in different dams has come down to such a level that it is really impossible for the authorities to put the same load on the transmission lines as was possible when the water level was up. Sir, the thing is whether with this power crisis that we are facing today, we will be able in the future to tide over this difficulty. There is a section of the population and technicians which says that the Government was fully aware of it that a day would come when this shortage we would have to experience. If I may quote, certain authorities are there. One Mr. Engineer and one Mr. K. M. Chinappa, who happens to be the Joint Managing Director of the Tata Electrical Cos, are of the view that the situation was discussed earlier, not in one meeting, but in many meetings, but that no note was taken of it. And then they are sceptical of our future performance also.

Sir, as you know, we in India are having power from three sources. One is thermo; the other is hydro and the third is atomic power. So far as

hydro power is concerned, it is rather a deplorable state of affairs that in different States the hydel projects which should have been taken up in the Fourth Plan, were not taken up. And it is all the more deplorable to us that so far as the north region is concerned, right from Punjab or Gujarat up to West Bengal, during the last 10 years, no hydel power station could be taken up. So far as the south is concerned, though proposals were there, but due to lack of funds they were not able to take them up.

Sir, I would rather go through these statistics. During the First Plan, 1950—55, our investment in crores of rupees on development of power was of the order of about Rs. 330 crores. In the Second Plan, it was 790 crores of rupees. In the Third Plan, it was Rs. 2042 crores. In the annual plan, 1966-67, it was Rs. 2446 crores. In 1967-68 it was Rs. 2852 crores and in 1968-69 it was Rs. 3265 crores. And during the Fourth Plan, i.e. 1969—74, our total outlays will be of the order of Rs. 5712 crores. The target that we want to achieve at the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan is 23.1 kw. Some persons have expressed doubts about these figures. They say, and again I quote the authority of Mr. K. M. Chinappa, that our target of 23 million kw. will not be reached. We are likely to achieve about 19 million kw. So there will be a shortage of about 4 million kw.

Apart from that, the Minister the other day told us that so far as the planning of generation of power in the country is concerned, it is 60 per cent by hydel power, and 40 per cent by thermal power stations, if I am not wrong. Sir, the question is this: How far are we going to achieve these targets by constructing these hydel projects and how far will we be able to have new thermal stations to achieve this target?

Sir, coming to thermal stations, the consumption of coal, which is the basic factor that determines how far

our achievements will be there in the year for the north eastern region, the thermal stations consumed 9 million tonnes of coal, in the year 1970-71. The consumption in the western region was 15.58 million tonnes of coal. That comes to about 24 million tonnes during one year, i.e. 1970-71. By the end of the Fifth Five-Year Plan, i.e. 1978-79, northern and eastern regions will consume 17 million tonnes and if the additional stations which are envisaged are actually constructed, it will add up by another 11 million tonnes. The western region will consume round about 56.5 million tonnes of coal. The combined consumption of coal for the northern, eastern and western regions is of the order of 24 million tonnes whereas by the end of 1978-79, the consumption will be of the order of about 73 million tonnes. That leaves us with a gap of about 49 million tonnes. The question is whether we will be able to produce so much and if we produce so much, the question is whether we will be able to transport all this coal from the mine heads to the thermal stations. I have been told by technicians that to transport this additional coal, we would require parallel lines which mean: another expenditure of thousands of crores of rupees on the railways. So, the question is as to how far we are going to co-ordinate the efforts of the Mines Ministry, Railway Ministry and Irrigation and Power Ministry.

Sir, when I was dealing with hydro projects, I did not mention one fact. As we know, Bharat Heavy Electricals is the main manufacturer of generating sets in India. We have under Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., a Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant at Hardwar, Central Foundry and Forging Plant at Hardwar, Heavy Switch Gear Unit at Hyderabad and High Pressure Boiler Plant at Trichi. To add to that we have a Heavy Engineering Plant at Bhopal. From the report of the Public Undertakings Committee, we find that Bharat Heavy Electricals have not been able to give us the equipment in time.

[Shri Maqsood Ali Khan.] I am reading from the 21st Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings, 1971-72, Summary of Recommendations at page 185, in which the Committee has recommended that:

"The Committee feel that since the Ministry of Irrigation and Power is responsible for the development of power in the country according to the targets envisaged in the Fourth Plan and since BHEL is engaged mainly in manufacturing machinery and equipment which are primarily needed by the state electricity boards and other similar organisations engaged in generation, transmission and distribution of power, it is essential that there should be a close liaison between these undertakings and a sense of participation and involvement in the planned development of the country. The Committee recommends that the views of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power may be ascertained and the question considered carefully from all angles with a view to ensuring co-ordinated development of generation, distribution and transmission of power in the country."

Sir, this report rather points out to a very grave fact. It seems that up till now there has not been the desired liaison between the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and the Bharat Heavy Electricals. So, to have our plants and projects commissioned in time, it would be necessary that a very active liaison is maintained between these manufacturing units and the electricity undertakings. So, while I was dealing with the cut in power in the different States, it would be rather sufficient on my part to say that this power crisis has created very many problems for the country. It is not only a shortage of power: whenever shortage of power is experienced, the resultant factors are too gloomy. On the one hand we have reports that the workers, the wage earners in many States like U.P., Tamil Nadu

and Punjab have been laid off. Some States have laid them off up to a number of about 30,000, and some up to 50,000. Apart from this laying off, the production has been reduced. When there is a cut of power to the extent of about 40 per cent or 60 per cent, there would be a corresponding reduction in production also. The result is that the country would be faced with short supply of very many goods.

Apart from that, about the agricultural production, though all the States have taken care to see that power goes to the agriculturist whenever he needs it—I should not say "whenever he needs it;" power should go to the agriculturist without any cut—in certain States there is staggered supply and in certain other States they have been rationing. First of all, we do not have any water from the dams. If the energised pumps are unable to get that quantum of energy which is needed, I (think our agriculture is going to suffer. So, this power shortage has brought in its wake other shortages also.

Today, as we stand we are having three famines in the country—power famine, food famine and industrial production famine—and it is a very grave state of affairs. To what extent the country is going to be affected by this shortage, one would be able to assess it only sometime in the month of June or July. But the Minister for Irrigation and Power is reported to have said that there would be a resultant loss of about Rs. 1,000 crores due to this shortage of power. It may be even more in terms of unemployment of labour, in terms of agricultural output. The thing is, how are we going to tide over this difficulty?

As I said, Sir, reports are that in other parts of the world also there is a shortage. The U.S.A. has its own assessment. They do not depend much upon atomic energy—they have to depend but they say

that. Here, Sir, I would crave the indulgence of the Chair in referring to some statistics which have been reported in the *Newsweek* of January 22, 1973. They have assessed that oil will dwindle by the end of the 10th year; natural gas would last till about 11 years; uranium will last for about 13 years and shellac 35—120 years provided the prices are such that they are acceptable in the market. Regarding coal, they have reserves which will last up to about 300 years. Such an assessment has already been made by all the countries of Europe excepting the U.K. All the other States in Europe feel that it is necessary to boost up their production of coal but the country like France is very much depending upon atomic power. So far as our atomic power generation is concerned, I may say that it is too negligible to be mentioned excepting that Tarapore atomic generator that we have. The other atomic station that we wanted to have in Rajasthan has not up till now been commissioned. Excepting this power station, we do not have any other source in the country though in the Plan we have thought of setting up certain atomic energy stations in other parts of the country also.

Now, coming to the oil situation, Sir, it is very grave there also. What we are producing today is round about 7 million tonnes of crude oil at present. This is one-third of the requirements of our country and naturally we have to go in for the crude petroleum and petroleum products and we have to look to other countries for help.

Regarding the natural gas, though some countries say that the geo-thermal gas is the answer to such shortages but our geo-physical surveys in India are not worth mentioning for the fact that they are not up to date even today. I won't say that we have not taken up surveys but whatever surveys we have taken up till now are so insignificant as to make us confident of our future reserves.

Sir, in this state of affairs, one has to look to certain defects in the present planning policy. This is not the day when one should rather indulge in mutual recriminations, one blaming the Government and the other defending the Government or one eulogising the Government and the other condemning the Government, but we have to look into the affairs with a very dispassionate view. If there has been anything wrong with our planning, if there is anything to be achieved, proper coordination of different agencies is necessary. How can that be achieved? Coming to the point of coordination in the country, we are having different agencies for the production of power and energy. As I have just now mentioned, we have the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, we have the Power and Irrigation Ministry, we have the Atomic Energy Commission and lastly we have the Mines Ministry. How far we have been able to maintain direct coordination to set up our plans or to face the programmes is the question one would rather require an answer on that.

So far as the Atomic Power Commission is concerned, several loopholes up till now have been pointed out. The first one starts, as I have mentioned earlier, about the time schedule to be kept by the Power and Irrigation Ministry. Sir, the second thing that has to be looked into is and which is a general complaint is that there has been a *gap* between the quantum of recording of the energy produced and the energy sold. The first thing that we come across is the point where energy is generated. The second thing is where it is transmitted; thirdly, where it is transformed and lastly where it is actually sold. The distance among all these is such that it has to be duly covered. I am told the losses on transformation so far as U.P. is concerned are of the order of about 25 per cent. If that is true of U.P., it may be true of other

States also. Then there is \*\*»n-uti-

[Shri Maqsood Ali Khan.] lisation and theft of energy. All these things will have to be looked into.

As I have earlier said, the generating sets that we have in some of the power stations have not been fitted

because the construction has 1 P.M. not been completed there. It

is unfortunate. Had there been any coordination between the manufacturers and the Irrigation and Power Ministry these generating sets would have been shifted from the States where they could not be used and put elsewhere where they could have been commissioned earlier.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Khan, will you continue after lunch? You will have another five or ten minutes.

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 2.30 Y.x.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one minute past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at half past two of the clock, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, while narrating some of the defects that are very much current in the generating machinery I made a reference to some of them but I would like to refer to two or three aspects of it. When I said that there should be complete coordination between the Mines Ministry and the generating unit authorities one fact that has come to our notice is that at some of the thermal stations because wrong type of coal was used they have worn out before their time. For example I will just quote one instance. In Orissa the Rs. 30 crore project is there which

has been constructed with American assistance five years back with a capacity of 65.5 mw. It is the Talcher thermal station. Because sub-standard coal was used for the pulverisers, the result was that the blades of the pulverisers wore out and the machinery remained idle. That is the case with most of the other thermal stations. When an enquiry was made by the Government regarding some of the thermal stations remaining idle, it was found that they were unable to work. When a reference was made to the manufacturers who constructed the boilers, they said that a particular grade of coal was required and because sub-standard coal was used its life was over. So, co-ordination should always be there. I think now that the coal-mines have been nationalised by the Government there will not be any difficulty in giving all these thermal stations the right, type of coal so as to see that the thermal stations work not only to their capacity but also their life is prolonged.

There are certain instances where the installed capacity is greater, but the actual output is less. U.P. has an installed capacity of 1572 mw, but the utilisation is only 38 per cent. Now, the 38 per cent utilisation is there because the transmission lines have not been laid. As everyone knows, whatever be the cost of generation of power, several times that cost will have to be incurred on the transmission of the power to the destination. So, the Planning Commission or the Government will have to be very careful while distributing power to the destination. Unless they incur the expenditure that is required, it is no use generating power. I take advantage of the presence of the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power and I would request him on behalf of this House that the generation of power may be considered in the light of distribution and transmission of power. Otherwise, mere generation is of no use. The different departments, in their efforts to have ample feedstocks for the consumers, are not

*and Feedstock Planning Board*

co-ordinating properly. I would just refer to one example. During the past two or three months the demand for oil has been too great. For example, in Haryana and Punjab, as they could not get power from Bhakra-Nangal, they have had to switch over to generating sets. The result is there was a considerable demand for oil and the demand for oil has shot up to such an extent that, I think, the Ministry of Petroleum will not be able to cope with it. If we take the industrial growth of other countries, for example, Japan, it is reported that the present consumption of Japan is 300 million tonnes and it will soar up to 600 million tonnes within ten years. So, also in the case of Russia and Germany. The demand for oil is going to be doubled in the next ten years. Our industrial growth is such that our demand for power or electricity is to the tune of 12 per cent. Some experts put it at 12.5 per cent. Even granting that it is 12 per cent, I do not know whether we will be able to generate and distribute that power to the consumer.

Coming to another point, many technicians have said this. Our Minister-in-charge of Irrigation and Power himself is a technician and if I say anything to him, it would be—to use rather an Indianised version of carrying coal to Newcastle—like carrying water to the Ganga and the Jumna. Anyhow, I would like to mention that the experts have said that the shortfall in the generation of power is due to the scarcity of expertise and the failure of the administration to put the plans through. So far as the technical expertise is concerned, I would request the Minister to put on the job so many of our retired officers who have worked in the different Electricity Boards and who have conducted electrical surveys. I think there are in this country very many persons whose services can be utilised at this hour and their special knowledge can be made use of.

The last point that I would like to mention is this. I would be rather failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge my debt to the Malaviya Committee's Report. Actually, this idea that I have put forward before the honourable House has taken from that Report on Oil and Natural Gats Commission. Though the scope of it was very much limited and they wanted to restrict it to the ONGC, the Atomic Energy Commission and, to a certain extent, to the Coal Ministry, I thought that in the present circumstances of the country the scope can be got enlarged so as to cover the Irrigation and Power Ministry also. In this connection, I simply want to say that so far as coordination is concerned, even today we are having the Planning Commission; within the Irrigation and Power Ministry, we have the Central Electricity Authority. But this Authority does not have that jurisdiction which they should have. It is simply a body, I should say, which assists the Irrigation and Power Ministry to a certain extent. They have the Directorate of Power Survey which has conducted about five plans and they are at the sixth plan. Apart from that, very recently the Prime Minister was pleased to appoint a Committee called the Steering Committee on Power which has been functioning for the last three or four months. And within the Coal Ministry we have the Task Force on the Utilisation of Coal, we have the Fuel Plan Committee also. But all these Committees are working within their spheres and there is no authority to coordinate the efforts of one with the other.

I would not like to go into the details of the figures given. But there is a variance of figures as envisaged by the Planning Ministry and the Coal Ministry and by the Oil Ministry. The figures are at variance with one another. But anyhow, it is not such an important matter. But what I would like to impress upon the Government is that these efforts will have to be coordinated.

[Shri Maqsood Ali Khan.] Another thing that has come to our notice is that there are many agencies that are functioning for the generation of power in the different States. There should be one common agency because too many agencies, sometimes, are not able to deliver the goods properly. For example, in West Bengal, we are having about five agencies which are distributing power to West Bengal. There is the Damodar Valley Authority, there are other agencies also. So, my case before the Government is that these several power generating units should be dealt with by one authority. For example, in Mysore we have got the Sharavati Valley Project, there is the Tungabhadra Generating Station and we have also the Sivasamudram Power Station. All these sell power to the Electricity Board. And the State Electricity Board is the final authority that sells power to the State. So, in this way you will be able to coordinate the efforts of these power generating units and even the planning units. Especially, that is the need of the hour. If this is done, it will go a long way in making our country self-sufficient in power and in drawing up a phased programme which will be in the interests of the agriculturists, in the interests of the industries and also in the interests of the transport people; though on transport I have not said anything, it is obvious that transport has to depend ultimately on oil and gas.

Sir, I have done.

*The question was proposed*

SHRI V. V. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, as a Member belonging to the D.M.K. Party coming from Tamil Nadu whole-heartedly welcome the Resolution because there is power crisis not only in one or two States, we are facing power crisis in almost all the States. Besides facing food famine we are now facing the worst power famine. Some two days ago an urgent Calling Attention Motion was given calling the attention of the

Government to the power crisis in the country. Replying to that 'Calling Attention' the Minister of Irrigation and Power gave the reasons why there is power crisis in this country. He said there is failure of rain and also reduced generation of power in the thermal power stations and atomic power plants. We usually get the stereotyped reply that there is failure of monsoon or there is failure of rain, there is no water in the dams and, therefore, there is failure of power. This time in the reply given by the Minister of Power and Irrigation it was stated that there is reduced generation of power in the atomic power plants and thermal power stations. What is the reason for reduced generation of power in the atomic power plant and the thermal power plants?

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, the other day the Minister of Irrigation and Power said that this is the only State which has the optimum capacity for production of power. But then why enough power is not produced in those plants especially in the Ennore and Neyveli thermal plants? In the Neyveli plant the maximum capacity is 600 MW but it does not produce even 1/4th of the capacity of the plant. Why even the Ennore plant does not produce the maximum capacity? It is for the Minister to reply. Replying about the atomic power plant in Tarapore, the Minister said that there had been shut-downs and lower production of power due to the need for replacement of fuel rods. But due to similar inadequate stock of I.D. fans and trouble in cooling system, things which can be easily rectified by technicians, plants are not producing the maximum capacity which they are commissioned for.

With reference to optimum performance of power plants about the private Tata power plant at Trombay, our Minister has paid very glowing tributes to the industry. He said this is the most scientifically run plant in



the whole country which is thoroughly modernised and rehabilitated. If the Minister is of the opinion that a privately run concern can produce the maximum capacity per hour, namely, 5,800 MW per hour which is a record for the whole country—it is a record even when we compare it with Japan which does not even produce so much—how is it that the Government -run companies in the public sector are not able to produce that much? The answer is given by Tata in one of his address. He says that the optimum performance is possible by adopting not only the latest equipment and design in operation but also by adopting the latest control techniques that minimise wastage in transmission. We are told that not only we are incurring huge loss of Rs 2500 crores in industry and exports due to non-production of power but also in transmission and distribution system in our country. We are losing Rs. 160 crores every year. So we are not only not producing enough but we are losing to the tune of Rs. 160 crores by way of transmission losses. This can be cured by adopting latest control techniques used by advanced countries. At present, the loss in transmission is estimated to be 19 per cent. This must be reduced to the minimum of 5 per cent, by importing power capacitors. Then the Minister for Irrigation and Power said that the reason for the power crisis in Tamil Nadu is that Kerala, which was supplying 10 lakh units every day, is not supplying it nowadays. Why? The answer is given by the Minister himself. The reason is, in Kerala also there is a power crisis. They are not able to get enough production of power to supply to Tamil Nadu. What is the reason? If the Idikki project had been sanctioned earlier, this power crisis would not have developed in Kerala. So, like this in all States they send some plans or projects, but their requests are not immediately responded to. I want to accuse the Central Government of not grasping the magnitude and seriousness of the problem. They have not responded to the requests

of almost all the States. They are not serious about power production. I venture to say the Centre is 'late responding' or 'never responding'. But they always say that we should have the twin objectives of the Fifth Five Year Plan: one is achievement of self-reliance and the other is removal of poverty. Now removal of poverty or self-reliance cannot be achieved without solving the problem of power crisis. A nation's progress and prosperity is measured nowadays by the consumption of power in the country. This is the barometer for measuring the progress of a country nowadays, namely, by the consumption made as a whole nation and consumption per head. Now, in our country power is needed not only for running industries but also to electrify villages. Haryana, Punjab and Tamil Nadu are the few States which have electrified almost all the villages in the State. Rural electrification is a Plan scheme and the Central Government also says that the States must take up rural electrification. We have done it. I am told that there are 24,000 Harijan colonies in Tamil Nadu and we have electrified almost all the colonies in Tamil Nadu. Are we to be punished for this? It is for the Central Government to think seriously about the request of each State. First we must improve production. They should not hesitate to import machinery from abroad, if necessary. They must first think of improving production in Neyveli. For that, they should not hesitate to import machines even from West Germany because on the previous occasion they have imported machines from West Germany. In Tamil Nadu there is heavy revenue loss to the Government. Almost all the municipalities which depend for their nearly 50 per cent of income on the tax given by the cinema houses are facing financial instability. They are not deriving it now. "The Hindu" has reported that even in hospitals and nursing homes, only 10 per cent of oxygen, a life-saver, is maintained because of the power crisis. This has affected not only

[Shri V. V. Swaminathan] the large-scale and small-scale industries, but also the supply of oxygen in Tamil Nadu. So, they must think of getting the required machinery from West Germany by plane. Besides that, the Minister has said that in U.P., as an emergency measure, they are thinking of getting two or three 200 MW diesel electric sets which can be erected in 18 months and also some gas turbines, I would request the Minister to be kind enough to sanction two or three such machines to Tamil Nadu, at least to solve the oxygen supply problem in hospitals and nursing homes.

The Ministry knows that our demand for power is growing. But the Planning Commission even in the Fifth Five-Year Plan Approach document is not able to assure the Members of Parliament that they will be able to meet the demand of power. They have said that the shortage in the Fourth Plan would be nearly 2 to 2.5 million KW. Now, the Ministry must shed its prejudice and bias against thermal plants. There is no other go. Virtually all the hydel resources have been exhausted in Tamil Nadu. We have naturally to think of thermal plants. Now the Resolution also talks about co-ordination or interlinking of grids between one State and another. That is possible. But before it is made, you must make each State independent or at least less dependent on other States, The Minister should not feel that his State or that State is not prepared to share with or transmit electricity to other States. Unless every State is made independent or less dependent on others, they will not easily come together. Before making each State independent we are trying to have grids on zonal basis or national basis. We must try to set up plants in proper places. For instance, there are the mighty rivers, the Godavari and the Krishna. You have natural huge resources with

potentialities for hydel power in Andhra but it is tapped only up to " 7 per cent. The rest of the resources now are not tapped. I am told there are 4000 million tons of coal potential in Andhra and you can set up a super thermal plant in Andhra. If you have a thermal plant in Andhra and the maximum power is tapped from the hydel project and super thermal project to be set up in Andhra, and if the Idikkj project in Kerala and the Sharavati project in Mysore are commissioned soon there will be a lot of surplus power which can be shared among the States in the south. You must first set up thermal plants spread all over the country. You should not say a thermal plant is costly. We know it is costly. Even though it is costly, there is no other go. So we must have thermal plants. I suggest to Government to do research on how to harness some solar energy, some tidal power, in coastal areas. They can also produce current from geo-ther-mal heat of the earth. We have to supply power even to remote corners. We have potentialities to explore possibilities of meeting regional demands simultaneously from such small systems. So it is high time that the Ministry do research on this. Such pioneer projects must be encouraged and developed. Attention must be concentrated on such systems to meet regional demands. Then, the country knows, the Ministry knows, there is a frequent failure of monsoon and rain in major States in India which depend upon hydel power. We are made to face power crisis and the Government is not prepared to come forward with thermal power projects. The Minister said on 20th that coal pit-head power stations had to be very big and the Government was thinking of setting up big power stations, two in Madhya Pradesh near coal pit-heads, one or two in Bengal and Bihar and one in Andhra Pradesh and one in Maharashtra, all in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. We are now only in the Approach to the Fifth Five-Year Plan

which means these projects will be taken up only after five or six years hence. I request the Government that these projects should be sanctioned in the Fifth Five-Year Plan itself; there is no other alternative. You must set up the thermal plants immediately and, if necessary, get the machinery even from foreign countries. We should modernise our machinery and rehabilitate our plants. We must get the latest equipment, the latest designs for erection and power capacitors also, because we are losing now in transmission and we should not feel shy of getting machinery from outside. We are thinking of achieving the maximum production. Maximum production is not possible without getting the latest type of machinery. We were saying that we should not get foreign assistance in tapping oil. But now we have relaxed that condition and we have invited the Japanese to explore offshore areas for oil. If only this theory of ours had been relaxed some ten years ago, we would have saved several crores of rupees of foreign exchange. So it is high time for the Government to get foreign machinery and to modernise our plants with the latest equipment and controls. Why is the 3 P.M. Government not sanctioning

it immediately? I want to point out to the hon. Minister that something has gone wrong somewhere. Is it in the Planning Commission? If not, there is something wrong with the decision making machinery. If there is something wrong at that level, then I would request the hon. Minister to institute a new decision making apparatus. If that apparatus is not ready and if the power crisis is not solved, then the twin objectives of self-reliance and removal of poverty cannot be fulfilled. You should not hesitate to change the decision making process. If necessary, the Central Water and Power Commission and other similar organisations should be changed. I am not Warning the

Central Government because this is a national crisis throughout India. But sometimes attempts are made to make political capital out of that, Political exploitation and political black-mailing should be avoided. I hear that on the 26th of this month some of the Ministers are going to perform Dharna in front of the Legislative Assembly at Madras. I think Government should show sympathy towards the States. The unfortunate occasion should not be used for political blackmailing. I would request the hon. Minister to improve power generation by taking immediate and suitable short-term and long-term measures. Let us move from the age of anxiety to the age of accomplishments.

SHRI V. B. SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I entirely support the motive and laudable purpose with which this Resolution has been moved. In fact today there are three Resolutions before the House. Only one has come up for formal discussion. In fact all the three are interrelated in the sense that all the three in one way or the other demand that there should be more power with the Central Government for the co-ordination of various activities especially relating to the commodities and services that are in short supply. This power of coordination should be inter-Ministerial, inter-State. This is the administrative reform needed.

Regarding power, I may be permitted to say that if you look into the distribution and generation of power that is taking place in the country today, it undermines the authority of the Constitution. The preamble to our Constitution says:

"We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic and to secure to all its citizens, Justice, social, economic and political, Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; Equality of status and of opportunity, etc." I underline the phrase "to all its citi-

[Shri V. B. Singh], zens". Let us see whether in the matter of power generation and distribution all of us are getting equal opportunities. I come from a State where from 8 A.M. to 6.30 P.M. there is no supply of power. The laboratories in schools, colleges and universities are not working. I am not talking of cinema houses. The limited industrial capacity of the State is crippled. Even agriculturists are not getting power to the full. One of the statements made in the document on Economic Survey for 1972-73 is that we should reduce our dependence on rain. Against this background, I would suggest that what is necessary is to discuss the causes of the long-term shortage of power in the country. This year is an exceptional year because of the failure of rains, drought conditions, etc. But the fact is that we have not done well to have more power-generating capacity, that is, production of more power-generating machinery in the country in anticipation of the demands in agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. Therefore, what is necessary is that the power that would be needed and demanded within the next ten or twenty years must be well estimated and more generating sets must be installed than what was visualised during the previous Plans so that the long-term power shortage may be reduced.

Sir, there are certain problems which can be solved in a better way. For example, it has been stated here that the cost of generation is not as high as the cost of distribution because of the non-availability of lines, etc. In a big industrialised country like the Soviet Union, Sir, I have seen that for the transmission of power they are not using iron poles because they say, iron is costly and iron is scarce and therefore they are using logs. We have our Forest Research Institute in Dehrā Dun. Why can't they suggest such methods so that wooden poles can be used for transmission of power from one

place to another and the cost of distribution reduced? Such research work should be undertaken so that the cost of distribution is drastically-reduced.

Then, Sir, there is the problem of leakages. In certain cities like Baroda or Poona, in the night the small-scale industrialists just put a wire on the main line and draw power for their use. This has been proved in a number of surveys conducted. Similar things are happening even in the interior areas in the country. Then, theft of copper wires, has become so common that special police squads are being appointed only to, I should say, if not encourage, at least connive at such activities indulged in by the gangs. They are stealing cars for stealing copper wires from the university quarters. It happened in Lucknow. A professor's car was stolen, stolen copper wires were leoaded in the car and the car was later abandoned about 200 miles away from Lucknow on the road to Delhi. This goes on. Sir. The basic problems are more generation, better distribution and cost reduction. Now, Sir, these are technical details and I am not competent to suggest that scheme 'A' is less costly than scheme 'B' and so on. But what is required is better co-ordination between the various agencies that are generating power.

Sir, we are all the citizens of India. But when it comes to the distribution of water from the rivers in India, because the rivers are sources of hydro-electric power, we are not Indians. Then we do not say "mother Ganges" or "mother Godavari" or "mother Jamuna", but we say that this river belongs to this or that State and we get divided amongst ourselves. It is high time that the entire power resources in the country are declared to be Central subject so that the States do not in any way come in the way of having a centralised national grid of power along with the other things that I have mentioned.

Having said that I would say that there is no need for any separate agency or committee when these changes are made. There is no dearth of committees. There is no dearth of agencies. The hon. Member moving the Resolution himself has recounted that these are there. We can simply bring it to the notice of the Minister concerned that he may kindly see that these agencies can be coordinated, how the national resources of the country can be centralized, and during the period of emergency, if it is necessary, we can take shelter of Article 249 of the Constitution. I will read out Article 249 of the Constitution;

"Notwithstanding anything in this foregoing provisions of this Chapter, if the Council of States has declared by resolution supported by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting that it is necessary or expedient in the national interest that Parliament should make laws with respect to any matter enumerated in the State List specified in the resolution it shall be lawful for Parliament to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India with respect to that matter while the resolution remains in force."

Therefore, this House is fully competent in this period of national emergency arising out of shortage of power to see that as summer is approaching nearer, our citizens are not put to further hardships and difficulties than they have been put to so far, because in case electric supply is made from 8 o'clock to 6-30 in the evening, people in northern India will be put to a great difficulty; the farmers will not be able to produce grain; and the industries will also not be able to produce more. And we will have to go from one corner to the other corner of the world with a begging bowl to avoid these calamities of a national magnitude. It is necessary that the Minister concerned takes up the matter seriously—at any

rate, more seriously than hitherto, so that these hardships may be avoided.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lakshmana Gowda.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA (Mysore): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Resolution brought by my friend, Shri Maqsood Ali Khan. The House is really thankful to him for having focussed attention to this crucial problem which has arisen in our country, particularly this year.

So far as the details are concerned, my friend, Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan, in his brilliant speech has made a complete analysis of the case for setting up an organization, as he has put it here, "National Power, Fuel and Feedstock Planning Board to coordinate the studies and efforts of different agencies working in this field at different levels in the States and the Centre and to draw up a phased programme to achieve national self-sufficiency in oil gas, coal atomic and hydropower...."

Sir, this is the crucial point. He has enumerated in his speech the difficulties which we are facing at present. Sir, it is not, as it was stated a little later, as if this thing took us by surprise. But this problem has been facing this country and the authorities were quite aware of it. A reference was made to the Malaviya Commission's Report, from which my hon. friend has taken certain items for bringing in this Resolution. It was focussed at that time. Sir, I still remember, about two or three years ago my friend Mr. Krishna Kant had organized a seminar here in which the late Dr. Sarabhai participated, where he elaborated this particular position of our dependence on hydel power to a greater extent than necessary, particularly in view of the fact that this country is prone to drought every few years. Sir, this has now come true. Sir, almost every State, and the States in South India,

[Shri M. K. Lakshmana Gowda] which paraded their production and electricity, like the State of Mysore\* which not only had attained a sort of self-sufficiency but was also in a position to supply power to other States, is facing acute shortage and difficulty, NOW, as a result of this drought condition, the power situation in Mysore is very acute. The Mysore State Government was inviting people from other States to come and start industries and promising them supply of power at lower rates and in plenty. People who came there for setting up industries are facing difficulties. My friend, Mr. Swaminathan, has detailed the difficulties in the State of Tamil Nadu which is one of the worst-affected States with regard to the supply of electric power. Likewise, everyday we read about other States. Our Principal agriculture producing States are suffering for want of power. This is a matter of national importance as my friend has stated and it is very necessary that the Central Government takes up this matter with great urgency. This is not a new thing. Ours is a country in which we have always been depending on the vagaries of monsoon for the generation of power and we know what the vagaries of monsoon have done to our country.

Now the economic survey which was released yesterday puts up a very grim picture of economic position in this country for all sectors, whether agricultural or industrial. Industrial growth has come down. It was very poor in 1970-71. The economic survey says that unless we come up to 7 or 8 per cent, we would not be in a position to hold the economy and I am doubtful of that with particular reference to the shortage of power.

Sir, in agriculture, we have gone down from 108 million tonnes to 102 million tonnes. We propose to raise it to 112 million tonnes. How are we going to achieve it? The main inputs for agricultural production are

irrigation and fertilisers. If there is a shortage of electricity, crude oil and diesel oil, then most of our naphtha based fertiliser factories will also face difficulties and that will be an additional burden for the projected increase in agricultural production. As a result of this, our dependence on foreign exchange is ever-increasing. We are already facing the shortage of foreign exchange. Our foreign debt burden has increased and now we have to import foodstuffs, fertilisers, steel and everything. One can only think of the difficult days ahead.

Sir, this resolution has been brought forward at a very opportune time and I am sure the entire House will support what has been suggested by my friend.

Sir, there have been specific difficulties for different States. My friend, Shri Swaminathan, narrated the difficulties of hydro-electric projects or thermal projects in his own State. Mysore is one of the States where there is a bigger scope for hydroelectric projects. We know the past controversies about many of the irrigation and hydro-electric projects which have not been completed. It was because of many controversies which had arisen between the States and States and the States and the Centre.

Sir, I am particularly interested in the setting up of this National Power, Fuel and Feedstock Planning Board so that the difficulties which might arise between the States and States and the States and Centre could be handled by one agency. It will do away with many of the difficulties arising out of the present centre-state relationship.

Sir, then there is the Idikki project which had an unfortunate tale. My friend, Shri Balachandra Menon has been saying, that it is nearing completion. It was such a great hope to

the Kerala people. But for various reasons it was delayed.

Sir, if we take the States in the North, Haryana was one of the States which proclaimed that every village in the State has been electrified. But where is the power to give light to the villages. The projects are there, of course. Everybody, every State wants to electrify the rural areas, the villages and supply power for agriculture and industries, but here, power generation itself—either thermal power or electric power or power from coal—is in deficiency and these things will remain only as schemes on paper implementation part of it will be a difficult one.

So far as coal is concerned, we are facing difficulties there as well, and it is said that the generation of power from coal is an expensive one. It is there that we have to think of our research, and I do not think there is any lack of experts in this country. In power generation—either hydroelectric or otherwise—we have got enough expertise and it is only a question of utilising it.

Now, coming to transport, we are facing difficulties there because transport in this country also requires power from one of these three sources—coal, electricity and diesel. And it is well known that this country is acutely short of diesel oil and we have to depend on other countries in addition to what we get from our own production. As my hon. friend has pointed out, as in the case at Japan, in every developing country the demand on diesel oil is going to be very severe and acute and in this country, if we do not find alternatives, it is going to be an extremely difficult and critical situation.

This Resolution has been brought Up at an opportune time and I congratulate my hon. friend for having brought it up. I fully support this Resolution.

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR (Uttar Pradesh):  
Sir, I congratulate my colleague for bringing up this Resolution because, as other friends have pointed out and as everybody knows, today there is a national crisis not only in the generation of power but also the other sources of fuel. Power and fuel are derived from hydro-power generation, thermal power generation and atomic power. As far as other fuels are concerned, they are oil and natural gas as well as fuel from the forests.

Sir, what has happened till now? A coal Advisory Committee was appointed some years ago. It could not meet in 1971 at all. It met once, perhaps, in 1970, but because of some other heavy work in the Mines Ministry the Committee did not meet at all. This is given in the Report of that Ministry for the year 1971-72. There has been lack of co-ordination, no doubt, between the various agencies of the Government—not only the agencies but also at the ministerial level.

I won't say much about the shortage of power because all of us coming from the different States know what the position is; it is getting worse. The industry people are crying for their own industries, laying off labour and creating more economic, social and law and order problems.

On the other side, the small agriculturists who got motors by obtaining loans to run the pumps today are finding that there is no power for them. We, who may be called the representatives of the States or the people have to face a very serious situation when we go to the rural areas.

There have been Plans previously also and if you see the history of each Plan, you will see that the targets were never reached. I won't go to the earlier Plans. Though it is said that the power generation during the last two decades or 25 years has increased nine-fold, I would like to

[Shri Yashpal Kapur] know whether we have kept pace with the industrial and agricultural growth. I do not know what has been the basis of deciding the targets of power generation because nowhere there is a match with the accepted demand for power and the decisions and targets that were arrived at for generating power. In the Fourth Plan, it was envisaged that the generating capacity would be increased from 14.3 million kw. to 23 million kw. but the achievement is likely to be only 20.2 million kw., a shortfall of about 2.8 million kw. What are the reasons for this shortfall? The main reason, as I have said earlier, is the lack of coordination between the various agencies of the Central Governments, and the Ministries of the Central Government and between the Central Government and the State Governments.

Sir, 10 or 12 years ago, certain projects for hydra-generation projects were cleared by the Central Government. Money was sanctioned for them and till today even the excavation work on some of these projects has not been completed. The hon. Minister was kind enough to take some of us, when he called a meeting of the Consultative Committee in Srinagar, to see a project in Kashmir. That project was sanctioned 10 or 12 years ago and out of the amount of Rs. 35 crores, what we were shown was only that big earth moving machinery had arrived and that the necessary excavation work had been undertaken. This is one example that I would like to put before you. And when you talk to the engineers or you enquire from the Ministry concerned, the usual reply is: shortage of cement, shortage of steel, shortage of machinery, labour unrest and all that. Well, all these things are there no doubt. Our steel production is not enough to match these requirements in different fields. The power is the one thing which is the life-line, the

blood-line for every other economic activity, whether it is a big or small industry, whether it is food for which also we have again to go other countries. It is another matter whether it is due to drought, this or that but if enough power was available I am sure our farmers in all parts of the country—with whatever education or training that has been given to them in utilising better seeds and inputs—would have certainly turned the corner as far as food production is concerned but it is unfortunate that even those who took the courage of going in for tube wells and other means of irrigation today are sitting idle.

About hydel power, when there is less rainfall the generation is cut down. About Bhakra I know when the new Pong Dam project is completed they will be putting one whole river in the Govindsajar. So it is hoped that there will be enough water in Bhakra for continuous peak generation of power but what about other places, other dams, which have also to supply water for power generation? I may quote only one instance, that of Rihand Dam.

In LLP, there have been many reasons for power shortage. The expansion of Obra, Hardwaganj etc. has suffered because of lack of coordination. The indigenous producers of power plant equipment could not supply the turbines and other equipment in time and still they are behind schedule. And it took more than one year between the Ministries concerned here and the Planning Commission to decide whether any thermal power generation equipment should be imported from abroad or not. I am happy and I congratulate the Minister for Irrigation and Power for having succeeded in convincing his colleagues in the Industrial Development Ministry and the Planning Commission to agree to the import of plants for some of the thermal power stations in the country. But I do not think even what



has been decided now is going to meet our immediate needs.

Now we are thinking that there should be a 12 per cent increase in power generation. We have thought of the same percentage of increase as in the last Plan but the demand has gone beyond assumption and imagination. So I do not know whether the target of 12 per cent increase in the Fifth Five Year Plan is going to result in satisfying the needs of power in this country. So again at the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan we will be faced with the same tragedy as far as power is concerned, as we are facing today. I would suggest that we should have a target of 20 per cent annual increase in power generation for the Fifth Five Year Plan. Otherwise keeping in view our past experience I am sure that we are going to be in trouble as far as power is concerned.

About atomic power there is a separate agency to set up atomic power plants and our Minister for Irrigation and Power has nothing to do with it. And what has happened to the atomic power plants. Our experience has not been too happy. Tarapore has been closing down often; the Rajasthan project is not on schedule. We have now been told that within two months it may start giving some power.

Coming to oil and natural gas, from the Report of the Ministry for 1971-72 it is not clear though reading between the lines one can see that the production of crude has not been according to the schedule envisaged. There are shortfalls in production. About natural gas at many places it is not being utilised at all- It is just being burnt away. Offshore drilling for crude was undertaken and one project was started in Gujarat near Bhavnagar. The Prime Minister went there to inaugurate the offshore drilling, but till now we have heard nothing about it.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra) : If you are referring to the AIU-bet project, it has been abandoned now.

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR: What has happened to it? There was another proposal for offshore drilling in the high seas beyond Bombay. We have heard nothing about it. My friend, Dr. Singh, spoke about forests. In this vast country so much of culturable waste land is available. There is some land where, of course, nothing can be grown like saline land or marshy land. Has any national effort been made till now for planting trees which can be used by the rural people or city people for the purpose of domestic fuel? Will we go on allowing the burning of the droppings of animals which are good manure and with which we can produce a lot more in our fields? Here and there one sees the forest department taking up small pieces of land for planting fire-wood trees. And the forest department, if I may say so, are working as a fifth estate in this country.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY) in the Chair]

Twenty-five years have gone by after independence^ but the conservators of forests live only in forests, in their inspection bungalows and dak bungalows in the grooves and heights, where nobody can encroach to suggest to them any new policy.

I have just given this background to show the various sources of power and fuel. Because of lack of coordination they are not being exploited and utilised fully. They are not being pressed into the service of hundreds of millions of people of this country. Apart from this, as pointed out earlier by my friend, there is non-co-operation among States, whether it is regarding river water or whether it is carrying of power from one place to another place where one or two States intervene. There was a policy and it

[Shri Yashpal Kapur] is being talked about even now that big thermal projects should be put up by the Central Government at the coal-fields and instead of carrying coal power should be carried, but what has happened? There was a news item and they termed it as piracy of power.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): Will you require more time? How much?

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR: Five Minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): Take three minutes only.

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR: All right, Sir.

The power going from Satpura to Punjab is being stopped on the way and is being used by another State. Well, we have got all the sympathy for the people and farmers of that State; they should get as much power as possible. But when the Central Minister of Power decides about the allocation of power from a particular thermal station to a particular State, the intervening State does not allow it to go to that State. So, there is a repercussion. The people from that State also ask, "Why should it go to another place?" So, all these lacunae are there, no doubt. One State, I understand, was talking about putting an excise duty on its river water because that water is used in the lower reaches for generating power. There have been disputes in Gujarat in Madhya Pradesh, in Rajasthan and other States, on which decisions have been delayed. As every year goes on, no decision having been taken, we have lost hundreds of millions of rupees worth of production, whether in terms of agricultural production or in terms of industrial production.

So Sir, while supporting this Resolution, I would appeal through this House to the various State Governments that wherever they are long

delays, they should not think in terms of their State, alone, they should come to agreements and allow the construction of those projects which would not only help those States but others also. If you see, in the balance even if in any particular project one State loses something, but if there is another settlement with another State, there it gets some advantage. With the goal of a National Power Grid, the power generated in one State is going to belong to all the States. I also support Dr. Singh's observation that we should behave as patriots and not think of a particular State. I certainly would stress that we have suffered till now in the supply of generation of power and fuel, in any shape, because of lack of coordination among the so many agencies, the Central Government's Ministries and the State Governments. Of course, it is for the Ministry of Power and other Ministers to decide in what form this coordination should take place.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO (Orissa): Sir, I thank my friend, Mr. Khan, for having brought forward this very comprehensive Resolution at a time when the country is passing through a very critical time. Since in his Resolution he has suggested many radical changes, I should have expected somebody from the planning Ministry also to have been present here during the discussion. Anyway, there are no two opinions that there has been a shortage of power and fuel which has been adversely affecting agricultural and industrial development as well as communications. As far as the shortage of coal, diesel, petroleum and power is concerned, Dr. Rao surely is not to be blamed because there are factors beyond his capacity as Minister of Irrigation and Power. Power is a very integral factor in the development of all these three industries whether it is fertiliser, steel or cement, or whether it is agriculture because all these three form a vicious circle. The reason why I refer to fertiliser, cement and steel

was that sometime back, in August Dr. Rao himself had issued a statement saying that power scarcity was due to non-availability and shortage of cement. It was due to delay in the delivery of indigenous equipment, inadequate storage facility in some of the major hydel reservoirs, use of inferior grade coal resulting in wear and tear, non-availability of auxiliary equipment, non-arrival of coal in time at thermal power stations due to shortage of wagons and trouble at the pithead and lack of transmission facilities. So it is not as if Dr. Rao is not aware of the factors. In fact, in my opinion probably he is the most efficient Irrigation Minister we have had and at the same time most knowledgeable so far we have in this country. But his Department has to deal at various levels, the most important being equipment and auxiliary and ancillary equipment which he has to use. Power generation, transmission and distribution arrangements are coming from indigenous manufacturers mostly from the public sector undertaking. The figures indicate that the Irrigation and Power Ministry has given orders for equipment for 12.5 million KW generation whereas they are in a position to deliver only 30 per cent. This is how delay has resulted in the rise in cost. The prices of this equipment have gone up. Take, for instance, the Punjab project located at Bhatinda. Because of this delay from Rs. 41 crores the cost has gone up to Rs. 50 crores for 110 million KW. They are going to have another 110 million KW which is likely to cost another Rs. 40 crores. Therefore, unless these bodies which are supposed to deliver the equipment deliver in time and unless the Ministry or the Government take adequate measures to see that the performance of these undertakings improves we are going to be faced with the power shortage for many years to come. So it is not as if this power shortage has come because of the failure of the rains last year or the year before, I would like to give you figures that this shortfall

in power has been continuing since the first Plan. In the First Plan there was 20 per cent, shortfall in power. In the Second Plan it was 36 per cent. In the Third Plan it was 35 per cent and in the three Annual Plans after 1969 it was 38 per cent. So this just reflects that either there is inefficiency or there is lack of effort to bridge the gap. Therefore, it is no use giving excuses for drought to failure of rainfall. This will not hold good because our planners or our engineers should have designed these projects taking into account the fact that we are in the Tropics where the rainfall and monsoons are very erratic. It takes a very simple geographic knowledge to know this. If we had known this, I suppose we would not have been in the position in which we find ourselves today. Then the reason attributed by one of Dr. Rao's colleagues, our present Home Minister when he was Minister for Health and Family Planning, is technical and administrative delays. Speaking at a seminar, he said that red-tapism was the reason for the delays in power generation and the sorry state of affairs to-day. Then, Mr. Narayan Rao, President of the Central Board for Irrigation and Power, in the same conference has attributed the reason to inadequate finance for power generation and also to diversion of funds by the State Governments which had been meant for power generation to rural electrification and such other agencies. That is why I was wondering that if we had a representative from the Planning Ministry here, it could have contributed to this discussion in a more worthwhile manner, because now Dr. Rao has to pass on all this information to the various Ministries as it is beyond his purview.

Now, Sir, we know that in this country three-fourths of our land mass is without adequate facilities either for irrigation or for drinking water. Two-thirds of our water potential is flowing into the sea which we have not been able to harness even 25 years after independence. At the moment, we have been able to give only a paper

[Shri K. P. Singh Deo] only 19 to 22 per cent assured irrigation facilities to our farmers. It is no wonder that agricultural production has gone down and it has had an adverse effect on industry as well as on our national income. All those great slogans of 'garibi hatao' and social justice will be nothing unless we raise our production, for which power is so essential.

Without going into other details, I would only say that I cannot agree with my friend, the mover of this Resolution, when he seeks to introduce a new body to co-ordinate all this. We have enough bodies at present from the Cabinet to the NDC and the Planning Commission and then the States also have their Planning Boards, who can have links with the various Ministries and Co-ordinate all these things. There is no need for another advisory body to the Cabinet, as he has suggested. In fact, I think, there are more than enough advisory bodies to the Cabinet now functioning. So, I would say that the Government should take steps to see that the public sector undertakings and other manufacturers who have been asked to supply equipment for hydel, thermal and nuclear power plants, do so according to the time schedule that has been fixed, and improve the working of these bodies, so that the cost of delay is kept down. The most important thing is to identify the locations where these thermal, hydel or nuclear power plants are to come up, and implement them quickly so that without further loss of time we will be able to generate enough power. And as his colleague, Mr. Dikshit, said in the conference, red-tapism and administrative delay should be cut down. Then I suppose there will not be any necessity for a new body to advise the Cabinet. Thank you.

**श्री रणवीर सिंह (हरियाणा) :** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रस्तावक महोदय ने ईंधन और बिजली की कमी की तरफ देश और सदन का ध्यान दिलाया है और ऐसे वक्त ध्यान दिलाया है कि जब कि हम पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय

योजना की रूप रेखा के बारे में फैसला करने जा रहे हैं। प्रस्तावक महोदय यह जो प्रस्ताव लाये हैं उससे उन्होंने देश की बड़ी सेवा की है।

जहां तक कमी का वास्ता है, कमी की तरफ ध्यान दिलाने का वास्ता है, उन्होंने इस ओर सदन का ध्यान दिला कर एक बड़ी सेवा की है। लेकिन मैं मानता हूँ कि इस कमी की पूर्ति सलाहकार समिति या फिर कोई आयोग के गठन करने से पूरी नहीं हो सकती है और इस बारे में मुझे बड़ा शक मालूम होता है। बिजली की कमी, आज देश का हर नागरिक चाहे वह खेती करने वाला हो, चाहे किसी कारखाने में काम करता हो, कोई कारखानेदार हो या फिर कारखाने से बनी हुई चीजों का इस्तेमाल करने वाला हो, इसकी कमी को हर एक महसूस करता है और इससे देश के आर्थिक ढाँचे पर कितना असर पड़ेगा, उसको भी महसूस करता है। लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ इस बात से भी इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता है कि यह जो बिजली की कमी है वह देश की तरक्की की एक निशानी है कि देश कहां तक बढ़ गया है और इस चीज के बारे में भी हम कुछ अनुमान लगा सकते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जिस प्रदेश से आता हूँ, वह प्रदेश पहले जिन प्रदेशों का हिस्सा था, उसका एक इतिहास मैं सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। हिन्दुस्तान के पंजाब और पाकिस्तान के पंजाब, दोनों के पास पानी से बिजली पैदा करने के लिए 24 एम डब्ल्यू की शक्ति थी, जब कि हिन्दुस्तान आजाद हुआ था। आज हिन्दुस्तान का पंजाब, जिसमें हरियाणा भी बन गया है, हिमाचल प्रदेश भी बन है, उसकी अब पानी से बिजली पैदा करने की 1200 एम० डब्ल्यू० की शक्ति हो गई है। इस तरह से पहले से पचास गुना ज्यादा हो गई है। लेकिन इसके बावजूद भी बिजली की सबसे ज्यादा कमी इन प्रदेशों को उठानी पड़ रही है जिसकी वजह से इन प्रदेशों की पैदावार में कमी आने वाली है। हरियाणा में बिजली की खपत के ऊपर 50 से 60 प्रतिशत तक

रोक लगा दी गई है और यह हरियाणा की तरक्की की निशानी साबित करती है और इसी तरह से पंजाब की तरक्की की निशानी साबित करती है । लेकिन इसमें शक नहीं कि अगर बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति नहीं बढ़ाई गई तो देश आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता है ।

मुझे एक जमाने की याद है जब पंजाब के अन्दर भाखड़ा की योजना पर विचार किया जा रहा था । उस समय बड़े-बड़े बिजली के विशेषज्ञों का यह ख्याल था कि भाखड़ा से इतनी बिजली पैदा होगी जिसकी हम खपत पूरे तौर पर नहीं कर सकेंगे । पंजाब इसमें जो पैसा लगायेगा वह उस पैसे के कर्ज से दब जायेगा और इस तरह से वह तरक्की नहीं कर सकेगा । उस वक्त बिजली को बेचने की योजना बनाई गई और यह फैसला किया गया कि दिल्ली को बिजली बेची जाय और एक खाद का कारखाना नंगल में लगाया जाय ताकि बिजली की पूरी खपत हो सके । लेकिन आज वही पंजाब और हरियाणा के लोग इस बात से परेशान हैं कि जो वे बिजली पैदा करते हैं उस बिजली का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा दिल्ली और नंगल का खाद का कारखाना ले जाता है । नंगल का जो खाद का कारखाना है वह हरियाणा और पंजाब के लिए बहुत जरूरी है, क्योंकि वहां जो खाद तैयार होती है, वह वहां की खेती की पैदावार के लिए बहुत जरूरी है । अगर हमें खेती की पैदावार को कायम रखना है तो खाद और बिजली की कमी को पूरा करना होगा और बिजली के द्वारा जो पम्पिंग सैट चलाये जाते हैं, उन्हें पूरी तरह से बिजली देनी होगी ताकि खेती की पैदावार को बढ़ाया जा सके । इस तरह से राज्य सरकार के लिए बिजली और खाद दोनों ही जरूरी हैं । पहले तो हमारे पास बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति ज्यादा थी, लेकिन बिजली की खपत करने की शक्ति कम थी और इस तरह से भाखड़ा के जो जेनरेटर थे वे काफी दिनों तक खाली खड़े रहे और इस तरह से हम पूरे तौर पर बिजली वहां पर पैदा नहीं कर सके ।

अगर हम उस समय पूरी बिजली पैदा करते, तो उसके द्वारा हम देश में कितना ज्यादा धन पैदा कर सकते थे और अगर हम इस चीज का हिसाब लगायें तो वह कई सौ करोड़ों में जाता है ।

4 P.M.

जहां बिजली को पैदा करने की शक्ति बढ़ाना जरूरी है, वहां बिजली की खपत को बढ़ाने की शक्ति भी बहुत जरूरी है । आज हरियाणा के अन्दर बिजली की खपत करने की जो शक्ति हमारी बहुत ज्यादा है । बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति कम है । फिर बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति के बारे में या अटॉमिक पावर स्टेशन के बारे में और थर्मल स्टेशन को या हाइड्रोइलेक्ट्रिक पावर स्टेशन में किसको प्राथमिकता दी जाए, इसके बारे में भी विचार हुआ । बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति की कमी है, यह नहीं कि वर्षा की वजह से कमी हो गई । वह भी एक बहुत बड़ा कारण है, लेकिन दर-असल बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति कम है । वह इसलिए नहीं कि केन्द्र का अधिकार नहीं था, वह इसलिए नहीं कि आपस में कोई सलाह-मशविरा करने की बात नहीं थी ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरा सौभाग्य था व्यास प्रोजेक्ट के शुद्धात के सालों में पंजाब के बिजली और पानी मंत्री के पद पर रहने का । मुझे याद है पंजाब और हरियाणा के अन्दर उस वक्त हमको पैसा मिल जाता, हमें उस समय सलाहकार समिति की आवश्यकता नहीं थी, कोई आयोजन की आवश्यकता नहीं थी, हमको पैसे की आवश्यकता थी । अगर पैसा हमको मिल जाता तो पाकिस्तान से जो पानी हमने खरीदा और हिन्दुस्तान ने 90 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा देकर जो दो तीन दरियाओं का पानी खरीदा था उसका हम पूरी तरह से इस्तेमाल कर सकते थे और हरियाणा और पंजाब की बिजली की भूख को भी पूरा कर सकते थे । तो दरअसल में कोई सलाह की कमी थी नहीं, पैसे की कमी थी । यह भी हो

## [श्री रणवीर सिंह]

सकता है कि उस वक्त सोचने के तरीके में भी फर्क रहा हो, यह पैसे की भी कमी हो। बड़े हिसाब-किताब लगाते हैं ब्याज का। अमरीका तो एक खेती प्रधान देश नहीं है, वहां हाइड्रो-इरिगेशन प्रोजेक्ट जो हैं, उनका जो फंसला करने का तरीका है वह हिन्दुस्तान से मुश्किल है। उसके अन्दर वह यह नहीं देखते हैं कि ब्याज दे सकते हैं कि नहीं। यहां तो एक ब्याज की जो दर रखी गई वह देनी ही चाहिए। यह नहीं देखा जाता कि वह देश की तरक्की में रोड़ा बनेगा या नहीं। यह नहीं सोचा गया कि भाखड़ा प्रोजेक्ट से 600 करोड़ रुपये का धन हम पैदा कर सकेंगे, इसलिए उस पर पौने दो सौ करोड़ रुपया लगाना देश के हित की बात है। हमारे वित्त विशेषज्ञ नहीं सोचते थे। वह तो यह सोचते थे कि यह ब्याज और असल रुपया हमारी प्रदेश सरकारें दे सकती हैं कि नहीं। आज राजस्थान की कैंनाल है, पता नहीं कितने साल पहले शुरू हुई और पता नहीं कितने साल और लगेंगे। उसमें कोई सलाह की बात नहीं, कार्य करने की बात है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अगली पांच साला योजना के अन्दर हमारा स्वप्न है कि जितनी आज हमारी बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति है, उसको हम दुगुना कर दें। स्वप्न तो बहुत अच्छा है, उससे ज्यादा कर दें, यह भी अच्छी बात है, लेकिन कर सकें यह असल बात है। लेकिन और कर सकने के लिए हमें कितनी शक्ति चाहिए और वह हमने जुटाई है या नहीं। आज देश में जितने बेकार हैं, लाखों इंजीनियर बेकार हैं। पहले लोग इंजीनियरी पास लोगों को इनाम देते थे, आज तो उनका रिश्ता करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, क्योंकि उनको नौकरी नहीं मिलती। उनका भाव गिरता जा रहा है। मेहनत वह नहीं कर सकते। देश की तरक्की रुकी हुई है। उनका भी इस्तेमाल हो सकता है। इस देश के अन्दर पानी से जो बिजली पैदा होती है और जो कोयले से बिजली पैदा होती है उसके अन्दर

तीन गुना और चार गुना महंगाई का फक है। भाखड़ा से जो हम बिजली पैदा करते थे, पहले उसकी डेढ़ पैसा फ्री यूनिट कीमत आती थी आज शायद कुछ ज्यादा जाती हो, ढाई आती हो, तीन आती हो, लेकिन जो कोयले से बिजली पैदा करते हैं वह दस नए पैसे फ्री यूनिट पड़ती है। पानी से बिजली पैदा करने से आज देश के अन्दर जितनी शक्ति है वह इस्तेमाल में नहीं आ रही है। आज पैसे की कमी है, विदेशी पैसे की भी कमी है, इन सारी बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए चलना है तो जहां तक पानी से बिजली पैदा करने का सवाल है उसके लिए सबसे जरूरी यह है कि हम तमाम इंजीनियर्स को उसमें लगाएं। उससे एक तो यह होगा कि इंजीनियर्स को हम नौकरी देंगे सारे देश के भविष्य के लिए सही मानें में रास्ता सोच सकेंगे।

डा० राव साहब ने एक योजना दी गंगा के पानी को कावेरी में डालने की। उसमें देश के एकीकरण की भावनाओं की बातें भी कही जाती हैं। सवाल एक है कि गंगा का पानी गंगा जहां बहती है क्या वहां की जरूरतों से फालतू है कि उसको कावेरी में डालें, वह कितना कीमती पड़ेगा, वह एकीकरण की भावना कितनी महंगी पड़ेगी और उससे कैसे हम सामान ले जा सकेंगे? कहीं सौ फुट ऊंचा पानी चढ़ायेंगे, कहीं दो सौ फुट पानी चढ़ायेंगे। तो क्या जहाज भी कूदा करेगा? नेवीगेशन की बात भी शामिल की जाती है। तो नेवीगेशन कैसे मुमकिन हो सकेगा? यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। यह बड़े बड़े विशेषज्ञ की बात है। मैं न इंजीनियर हूँ और न अपने आपको विशेषज्ञ मानता हूँ, लेकिन मेरे मन में एक बात आती है कि पानी जहां इस्तेमाल हो सकता है अगर उसकी वहां आवश्यकता है और उसको वहां इस्तेमाल किया जाय तो वह सस्ता पड़ेगा और अगर उस पानी को दूर डाला जाय जहां उसकी आवश्यकता भले ही हो तो उसका खर्चा कई

गुना होगा। देश सबका है। हरियाणा केवल हरियाणा वालों का ही नहीं है। हम हरियाणा में ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करते हैं तो उसको हरियाणा वाले ही नहीं खाएंगे, वह देश के लिए बचेंगे। इसलिए जहां जो ज्यादा पैदा कर सकता है, और कम खर्च पर पैदा कर सकता है उसका ध्यान रखना चाहिए। हमें योजना बनाते वक़्त उसका ध्यान रखना चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, जैसा मैंने कहा, बिजली के बार में एक सोच थी विषयज्ञों की, बड़े-बड़े पढ़े-लिखे विद्वानों की सोच थी कि बिजली इतनी पैदा होगी कि खर्च नहीं हो सकेगी, लेकिन आज वह सोच बदली है। बरुआ साहब हमारे ईंधन के मंत्री हैं। एक जमाना था जब कुदरत का ईंधन था, जंगल से लोग लकड़ी लाते थे, गांव के अन्दर जंगल होता था, वहां से लकड़ी मिलती थी, गोबर का भी इस्तेमाल करते थे। जमाना बदला, अब न गांव में लकड़ी मिलती है, गोबर का इस्तेमाल करे तो वह घाटेकी बात है, गोबर को खेत में डाले तो व सोना पैदा कर सकता है। अब तो ईंधन की जरूरत है। आज इंजीनियरों को ही नहीं, बड़े बड़े सरकारी मुलाजिमों को ही नहीं बल्कि एक जमाना आएका पांच साल के बाद गांव में किसान भी इस बात को पसन्द करेगा कि गैस का चूल्हा उसके पास हो, चाहे गोबर गैस आप बना दे या दूसरी गैस, यह दूसरी बात है। बिजली से कपड़ा शहर वाले ही धोएं वह बात नहीं है। बिजली से कपड़ा धोना ही नहीं, बिजली से आराम की जितनी चीजें मिलती हैं वे सब हिन्दुस्तान के कोने-कोने के लोग चाहेंगे। जैसा अभी बताया, एक जमाना था जब हम खेती करते थे, किसी को ख्याल नहीं था कि इस देश के अन्दर ट्रैक्टर भी आएंगे, ट्रैक्टर आए। ट्रैक्टरों की पैदावार बढ़ी है, दूसरे देशों से भी मंगाने हैं, फिर भी आज ट्रैक्टर की जो कीमत है वह विदेश के मुकाबले दुगुनी है, लेकिन उसके ऊपर भी ब्लॉक है। तो जो प्लानिंग है, हमारी योजनाएं हैं उनमें हमें

इस तरफ ध्यान देना चाहिए। ईंधन की जरूरत देश में आगे और भी बढ़ने वाली है, क्योंकि खेती के तरीके बदल रहे हैं, रहने के तरीके बदल रहे हैं। पहले हम थोड़ा कपड़ा पैदा करते थे, खड्डियों से पैदा करते थे, हाथ की खड्डियों से पैदा करते थे, आज पावर की खड्डी से कपड़ा बनाते हैं।

देश के अन्दर रहने का तरीका बदल रहा है, सोच का तरीका बदल रहा है। उसी नुकते नज़र से आज जहां देश की तरक्की हो रही है, वहां देश की तरक्की की वजह से बिजली की खपत भी ज्यादा बढ़ रही है और बिजली की खपत के साथ-साथ ईंधन की खपत भी बढ़ेगी। जहां तक आपस में विचार करने की बात है उसमें कोई आदमी इन्कार नहीं कर सकता। यह भी बात सही है कि कोयला एक तरफ जहां पैदा होता है, वहां कोयला जठाया नहीं जाता और दूसरी तरफ जहां बिजली घर हैं, वहां पर कोयला पहुंचता नहीं है। दोनों ही बात सच हैं।

कपूर साहब ने जिक्र किया कि हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार की एक नीति है कि हम बड़े बड़े थर्मल प्लांट लगाये और जहां कोयला पैदा होता है वहां कोयले की खानों के पास लगाये। बात तो बहुत बढ़िया है, लेकिन इस देश का जो तर्जुबा है वह बिलकुल मुश्किल है। अगर आप देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि कोयले की खानों के पास जो थर्मल प्लांट लगे हुए हैं, उनकी एफिशिएंसी उन थर्मल प्लांट्स के मुकाबिले में कम है जो कोयले की खानों से दूर हैं और जहां रेलों कोयला समय से नहीं पहुंचा पाती है। ऐसे थर्मल प्लांट्स जो कोयला की खानों से दूर हैं वे ज्यादा बिजली की युनिट पैदा करते हैं और उसकी बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति ज्यादा है। पिछली दफा इरिगेशन और पावर मंत्रालय ने कंसल्टेंटिव कमेटी में जो आंकड़े रखे थे, उनसे साफ था कि जो थर्मल प्लांट कोयले की खानों से दूर हैं, उनकी पैदा करने की शक्ति ज्यादा

[ श्री रणबीरसिंह ]

है वनिस्वत उन थर्मल प्लांटस के जो कोयले की खानों के पास हैं।

आज भी हम देखते हैं कि जिन प्रदेशों में बिजली ज्यादा है वह उनके लिए खुश होने की बात नहीं है। बरुआ साहब, आप की भी बिजली पैदा करने की शक्ति ज्यादा है और मध्य प्रदेश में भी ज्यादा है।

श्री यशपाल कपूर : वहां लाइनें नहीं हैं, बिजली तो है।

श्री रणबीर सिंह : वही मैं कह रहा हूँ कोई उनके लिए खुशी की बात नहीं है। वह वहां की तरक्की की निशानी नहीं है। वह इस बात की निशानी है कि वहां देहात और शहर दोनों में बिजली की पूरी खपत नहीं होती है। मेरा निवेदन यह है कि बेशक जैसा कि प्रस्तावक महोदय ने कहा एक आयोग बन जाये, उसमें मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। लेकिन दरअसल देश को आज ज्यादा जो जरूरत है वह इस बात की जरूरत है कि जो हमने योजनाएं बनाई हैं, उन योजनाओं को हम कार्यरूप दें और उनको चलायें जैसे कि कपूर साहब न आंकड़े रखे, हमने जो टारगेट बनाया उसका हम पूरा नहीं कर पाये। तो यह आज देश की आवश्यकता है कि उन टारगेट्स को हम पूरा करें।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): Mr. Goray.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Sir, I want to thank my friend, Shri Maqsood Ali Khan, for focussing our attention on this very vital issue. Sir I must congratulate him also on his very comprehensive and constructive analysis of the subject, and I hope that when the Minister replies he will be in a position to tell us very frankly as to what is possible. Even if this Resolution was unanimously passed by this House, and Sir, I am afraid that in spite of the fact that my friend, Shri Y. P. Kapur, threw all his weight behind

this resolution and all the Congress M.Ps. have blessed this resolution, it is not likely to be implemented at all because it concerns so many authorities which are already well established and I do not think that it will be possible for them to agree to this proposal that all their activities should be controlled or guided by a single authority which will give them the necessary directions. Still I see that this is very necessary and I entirely agree with the mover of the Resolution that unless such a comprehensive authority is created, it would not be possible for us to deal with this crisis.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to remind this House that it was perhaps Lenin who defined socialism as Soviets plus electricity. Very strange it sounded at that time. But now we can see that as we advance, as we try to develop industrially, as we try to develop our small scale industries and even our agriculture, at every footstep we have to depend on electricity. "Without that it is not possible to make any progress at all. That is why we are finding that in spite of our estimates of the likely demand, we fall short in supply and the more electricity we produce, the demand always outstrips the supply Sir, this is going to happen and I do not know whether the brave estimates that have been submitted to us by the Ministry of Irrigation and Power will convince the Government that unless sufficient funds are placed at their disposal, whatever Mr. Rao may think and whatever he may dream, it will not be possible to realise them in practice. Mr. Rao is a dreamer and I am glad that he is a dreamer. Many people ridiculed him for his project on Ganga and Oauvery. But I was one of the earliest to congratulate him on that and I even called him the modern Bhagirath. Such dreamers are necessary and he has placed before us a perspective plan of development of electricity. I would certainly urge upon the Government to consider it in depth because if really they want India to progress rapidly, industrial de-



velopment to take place and our agriculture to prosper, then without sufficient supply of electricity our ideals are not going to be realised at all.

Sir, what is the present position? It is very unfortunate that we are faced with a very serious drought this year. The Minister is in a very unenviable position. He could not help it. But is that the only thing? Drought is certainly there and it is something that we cannot help. But we know that in a country like India, drought is not a strange phenomenon. It is a common occurrence. Every two or three years there will be drought and every two or three years we shall face shortage of electricity, generation of power. It is bound to happen because 45 per cent of our electricity is generated by hydro-electric projects. That is the estimate that is given here in this Economic Survey. Now, if that is so, then is it not time that we thought of some alternative arrangements? And those alternative arrangements are thermal power and atomic power. Now, there also you will find that thermal power is not being generated as it should be. Just now my friend cited the instance of the Tatas. I know that in this House the name of Tatas and Birlas is anathema. But let us not forget the fact that if the House of Tatas is capable of functioning of 85 per cent of its capacity and if our thermal power stations are working at about 65 per cent capacity, it is time that in spite of all the prejudices we have, we wake up and try to understand why the Tata-managed thermal power stations give 85 per cent of production while we are lagging far behind. It is no use always trying to find fault with this monopoly house or that monopoly house. What we are concerned with is production and, therefore, I would appeal to the Minister to find out what is wrong. And Mr. Tata has said in his Address that the only thing that makes a difference is the proper maintenance. Not only your thermal power stations but also your steel plants,

your coke even batteries—everywhere—you will find that we are not keeping the maintenance and therefore, our production is suffering.

Why is it that even the Tarapore atomic power station is not giving us the power that is expected of it? Why should it be so? The best of our scientists are there. There is no question of our under-paying them or anything like that. We try to keep them as well as we can. Now, in spite of all this, why is it that every fifteen days, every month or every two months we find that there is something wrong with that atomic power station? Why is it? And I am quite sure that if the Ministers in charge of Irrigation and Power, Atomic Energy and fuel and petrol sit down together and try to solve this problem it is certainly not beyond their capacity to find a solution. I was surprised when we were told that the atomic power station at Tarapore is not producing sufficient electricity but yesterday—if the reports are to be believed—the Prime Minister said "nothing of the kind; it is giving us maximum electricity and there is nothing wrong with the Tarapore power station". Now, who is correct? Either the Prime Minister is correct or those who are giving us information through such books as this Survey. Or, most probably, the Prime Minister has not been briefed correctly. I do not know what the correct position is. But we know it for a fact that the atomic power stations and the thermal power stations are not generating, are not supplying the electricity that is expected of them. And I am quite sure that without taking very drastic measures it will not be possible. If more attention is paid to these things, they will start working at a better rate.

Then, I would like to ask one question of the Minister of Irrigation and Power. Is it not a fact that because of the disputes that are endlessly going on about the sharing of waters of our rivers, many of the projects are held up? Only a few days back I have

got a brief from the Maharashtra Government in which they have said that no less than ten hydro-electric projects are awaiting clearance from the Central Government. Take the case of the Narbada. There are any number of similar other cases. Why is it that in spite of the fact that we know that we must get electricity and that the Narbada has very great potential so far as electric power is concerned, these problems are not being solved? During the last 20 to 25 years, how much money have you wasted? Crores and crores of rupees have been wasted, crores of rupees worth electricity has gone down into the Arabian Sea because we could not make a decision. You are talking of drought, you are talking of shortage of food, shortage of electricity and still the Godavari water dispute is continuing, the Krishna water dispute is continuing and the Narbada water dispute is not settled. Why? I would like to appeal to such energetic and dynamic people like Mr. Yashpal Kapur to pay less attention to winning seats in the Assembly and Parliament and pay more attention to these things. It is this thing that we want. The dynamic people like him should try to solve these problems and see that the wheel starts moving. This is what is wanted. Fortunately the new Minister in charge of Petroleum is also there. I would like to ask him what is happening to the Aliabet project. When I was in this House, Mr. D. R. Chavan who was the incharge of this Ministry, said that the drilling has started and the results will be known within six months. That was two years back. We know that nothing has come out from this. You talk of the Bombay High- I may tell you that so far as the Bombay High is concerned, the rigs that we have asked for have not reached Bombay as yet. They may be somewhere on the High seas. And even there I would like to warn you that even if we succeed in finding oil below down in the Sea, it will take years before we can really start exploiting it. I would like to remind this House that England has tried this in

the North Sea, they have got enough oil down there but there are any number of difficulties before they can start utilising it. So, it is not as if when you dig oil in Bombay High the question of enough supply of crude will be settled. It is not so. It will take years and the rate at which we customarily progress is well known to us. If other countries take one year, we take five years. And if that is the rate of our progress, even by the end of the next Plan there will be no more crude from the Bombay High. So, this is not a question to be newly understood. The situation is well taken, well understood. We know where the bottlenecks are, how the production can be improved. We know that production must be improved if we really want to make any progress so far as industrial and agricultural development is concerned. We know all that but the only question is that we do not know how to implement it. Therefore, I really want to extend my sympathies to Mr. Rao. As an engineer he knows that these things must be done but there are so many bottlenecks in the way that he has not the strain to break all the bottlenecks and go ahead with the programme.

I hope that this Resolution which points out a way, this Resolution which has the backing of the entire House, for which we are thankful to our friend in bringing forward before the House, will make the machinery of the Government move. I hope, Sir, it will move in the right direction and we shall start dealing with this problem in right earnest.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): Sir, I must thank the distinguished mover, the hon. Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan, and the various speakers who have participated in the discussion. We have had a very high level discussion and some very useful suggestions have been made and I really got a very good view of the whole problem of power supply in the country. The purpose of this Resolution is to set up

a National Power, Fuel and Feedstock Planning Board but the discussion has covered many other aspects which are side issues no doubt, but which are very important in the consideration of such a Planning Board. The discussion ranged from types of generation to the quantum of power that is available now, to the shortfalls at the end of the Fourth Plan and to what should be the target in the future plans and so on including the need for coordination at various levels in order to achieve and ensure full power supply in the country.

I will briefly comment on these various aspects and try to show what we are doing, in respect of coordination in this field of power supply. About the type of generation some Members have said that more thermal stations should be constructed, some have said that hydel power should be accelerated while some others have pointed out that nuclear power should also be brought in. All these things are necessary. In fact, at the present moment our power system consists of 40 per cent hydel power and 60 per cent of thermal power including nuclear power and I expect that as we go along the amount of hydel will become less and the thermal will become more and more and in another ten to fifteen years the nuclear programme will gain momentum and will form a very considerable part of our system.

Some Members have spoken about geo-thermal source. The geo-thermal source is a very potential field all over the world. Now the people are thinking there is a large amount of energy underground and the countries must exploit this. This is a very important source of power. There are two aspects here. One is that there are large pressures under the ground much more pressure than what is one warranted by the rate of overburden and these are considered as potential areas where power can be produced on a very large scale at a very cheap rate. We do not

want to lag behind in this and we are also entering the field. There is very great possibility in Maharashtra in the Konkan areas and also in the Himalayan mountains. We have invited a United Nations expert on geo-thermal to advise us on geo-thermal drilling and how we should proceed about it. We are expecting him on the 28th of this month.

Some other Members have spoken of solar and other forms of energy. They are all very important for the country because we do not know at what stage we will have to use them. So we have to keep abreast of all methods of power generation. Not only the quantum of power must be there but it must be produced at a very cheap rate. We cannot depend entirely on one particular source and that is why we have to keep abreast of all sources and methods.

So far as the quantum of power is concerned, I would like to submit that this is a very important aspect. The quantum of power that we will have at the end of the Fourth plan is 20 million kw and I expect there will be a shortfall of 3 million kw. Twenty million kw of power for a big country like ours is utterly inadequate. It is already evident how the whole country is suffering because of shortage of power. We know how this shortage of power is not only causing grave concern but actually retarding the growth of the nation in various fields. Careful calculations have shown that in the Fifth Plan we should go in for another 20 million kw at least so that by the end of the Fifth Plan we should be having not less than 40 million kw of power in the country. Many people have felt sceptical about this and have asked how we can get that much amount of power, where are the resources, where is the capacity and so on. But that is not the point. We have to meet the challenge of the country. Our population is not static; it is going up. From the 550 million today it will go up to 900 million at the

LDr. K. L. Rao]

end of this century, that is, 2000 A.D. If you want to provide all these 900 million people with employment and with the necessities of life, you must have power and I expect that we shall need at least 200 million kw of power by the end of this century. From the present 20 million kw in 1974 we have got to go up to 200 million kw by the end of the century. That is absolutely essential and that should be the target for the nation. I want to submit that this power plan should not be done on the Five Year Plan basis. A five-year period has no meaning for planning power. It should be a continuous process. It should be going on from year to year. The whole planning must be far ahead^ at least ten years ahead. The ultimate idea is that we should reach the 200 million limit at the end of the century. That is the least we should do. In this connection I would like to submit that countries like the USSR have got 200 million kw units today and America has got 400 million kw hours even today. I am not aiming at these figures. My very humble aim is to have per *capita* 400 to 500 kw hours at the end of the century. We have got only 90 kw hours today. Therefore, I submit that the House must be fully aware of our targets in the Fifth Five Year Plan and for this decade and the target by the end of the century. That is how we should proceed. It should be continuous. There is no question of doing anything on the Five-Year Plan basis and snapping it. In fact, this is one of the concepts that have come in the way. One reason why we have got shortage of power is due to the fact that we have got this target\* of Five-Year Plans. That is why the power shortage has occurred.

Another important point in this connection to be remembered is that power planning in this country is managed and power is generated by a number of agencies like the State Electricity Boards and the various other organisations. At the Centre

in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power there is practically no central generation. We have just got one or two stations. We have got the Badarpur power station in Delhi. There is the Salal power station in Jammu and Kashmir State and the Loktak power station in Manipur. There is no other central generation of power. The generation of power is entirely with the States. We have got a little bit of atomic energy and a little bit of power under Ministry of Mines. Otherwise, we have got very little at the Centre. Therefore, the question really is—and it is a very important point—whether we can leave the further generation of power to various agencies like this. We have studied the other parts of the world and we find that every country has got a generating board. For example, in the United Kingdom there is one generation board for the entire country. Generation of power is managed by one organisation. Also, transmission. Of course, distribution is done by various agencies. Likewise, we should have one board, but in view of the fact that we are a large-sized country with differing characteristics, we are trying to put up regional generating boards in the different regions of the country. We have five regions, *viz.*, North, South, East, West and then either South-east or North-east. For these five regions we propose to have five generating boards. They will be responsible for the generation of power in that area, for the co-ordination of power in that area and for the whole planning. Everything will be on the basis of self-sufficiency for these five regions. It is only on this basis that we can hope to build it up. There will be one central agency at the Centre which will co-ordinate their activities. The necessary norms and other factors which will arise by way of advanced designs and other types of co-ordination that is necessary to run these various units will be done by the central agency.

Some such arrangement has got to be

made if we want to deal with the aim of high power generation. At the moment, I think as the hon. Member, Shri Yashpal Kapur, has said, we are having a certain amount of difficulty in trying to have uniformity throughout the country or a unified power generation because some States think that hydro power in the State is a source of their own and they should get revenue out of it. It is a kind of habit with our people, but as time goes on and as we develop more and more co-ordination, I am sure the country will respond and agree to the generation being entrusted to the regional boards in the various regions. Of course, distribution will be the responsibility of the State Governments. That is, the States will be responsible for the distribution of electricity. There is a little correction I wish to make. Some hon. Members have said that Trombay is the only power-station in the country which has been doing well. While I congratulate the Trombay people for doing well, I would like to say that this is not the only one power-station; there are a number of other power-stations in the public sector which are doing well. For example, in 1971-72, Trombay had put in 5725 hours, Amarkantak 6720 hours, Panki 6140 hours and Kotha-gudam 6040 hours. There are a number of power-stations which have done well; there is no distinction between public and private sector stations in this. I quite recognise that we must improve our working hours. We generally expect that 4500 hours are good. But there are a number of places, in Eastern India, in the DVC area and in West Bengal area, and some in Bihar also, where the power-stations are working less than four thousand hours. We are taking every step to see that the gap is filled up and that the number of hours of availability of power is improved.

About coordination about which something was said as to what is the type of coordination that we are having and whether the power system

in the country is not suffering for want of coordination, I would say that that is a very important question. I think that is the main idea of the Resolution which is before the House for discussion. We have carefully examined. What is the type of coordination that we are having now? And what is that we should have further in order to see that the power supply in this country is put on a safe footing and it serves the people to fulfil their requirements?

Before I go on to discuss the various types of coordination, I must also mention about the power shortage in the country. It is very unfortunate that we are passing through very difficult times. Actually, the power shortage, as we calculated it in November, was about 25 million kwhs. a day. Now, this shortage has increased to 35 million kwhs., the reason being that the demand has gone up by 5 million kwhs. and the availability has gone down by 5 million kwhs. with the result power shortage has increased to 35 million kwhs. a day. And this is bound to be there till about May-June, when we are expecting much better rainfall, better flows in the rivers and also that the hydro-electric reservoirs will be full, and we expect quite a number of thermal stations also being completed.

Now, when I am on that subject, I should accept that a large number of projects are lagging behind, and these power-stations are located under various Government agencies, they are not connected with the Centre. To give an example, about the Idikki Project, one hon. friend from Kerala said that there was delay in sanctioning. It was sanctioned long long back. Unfortunately, due to some reasons it has lagged behind very much. Some of these big power projects that are lagging behind are on the final stage. And all over the country, we have got very big projects lagging behind, with the result the Kalpakkam Project at Madras has also fallen behind. We expected

[Dr. K. L. Rao] that to come up in the Fourth Plan. At Rana Pratap Sagar, the first unit is coming up, the second unit is lagging behind greatly. We are trying to reduce the shortfall as much as possible. I expect that at the end of March, 1973 it would be over 18 million and at the end of March, 1974, 20 million. We do not want to allow it to fall below this.

I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to all the State Governments to put in all their best efforts. Whatever they want by way of additional financial assistance, that also we will give. We must realise that it is very important to complete these projects. In fact, I am very glad that this year the Finance Minister has given some additional assistance, financial assistance, outside the Plan provision for some of these projects, to accelerate these projects. Those projects are in an advanced stage of construction. What I would submit is, I would appeal to the respective State Governments to take it as their responsibility. There is no use simply saying that we have fallen short of power. The mistake lies on all of us. The State Governments must take steps, actually must work three shifts a day, round the clock, and see that some of the projects, which are falling out, are made up: I think that way we can accelerate and reduce the delay in the completion of some of these projects.

Now I would deal with the type of co-ordination we are having at the different levels. The first one is about coal supply, coal to be mined and then brought by train to the various power stations. I accept there has been some trouble and there is still some trouble about coal supplies. Actually our power stations do not have so much coal in stock as they should have. Generally our criterion is that we should have coal for two months or more every power station whereas we are hardly having coal for 10 days or 15 days. Now we are taking a

number of steps towards co-ordination. Recently there has been established what is called the Standing Coal Linkage Committee in the Ministry of Mines in which the representative of the Irrigation and Power and the Railways get together. They determine from which coal mines the coal has to be moved to a particular power station. So there is this Standing Coal Linkage Committee. Now the recent taking over by the Government of all the coal mines, I am sure, will accelerate the production and unfailing supply of coal.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Have you got captive mines?

DR. K. L. RAO: That is an important question. That we do not have unfortunately. I personally feel that we should have some captive mines.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: With the nationalisation of coal mines you can have some captive mines.

DR. K. L. RAO: I quite agree that for big power stations like the one for 2 million KW that we are thinking of setting up at Satpura etc., which are intended only for consuming coal we should have our own mines. I personally feel that is a very great advantage because then the people can take the responsibility and not make noise every time. Now whenever the power supply goes down they attribute it to coal shortage.

I think it is a very good idea to have captive mines. Madhya Pradesh has been asking for it for quite a long time. I think it is high time that we should give serious consideration to that suggestion.

What I want to submit is that so far as co-ordination in the coal sector is concerned there is the Standing Coal Linkage Committee all the time sorting out at which station coal must be supplied. Now the nationalised coal mines must be an incentive in that direction. And as hon'ble Mr. Goray said, if we add further the captive mines also, this will ensure a fairly good supply of coal. We have got to be careful, I agree because in

the recent months output of power was reduced for want of coal and we had to run about quite a lot between the various Ministries and so on.

Transport of coal is very difficult because our railway system is very, very limited. And in view of the fact that Indians have got the habit of travelling excessively—it is the Indian habit—therefore, the goods do not move so smoothly. So there is trouble of transport. So for this also we have established in the Railway Board a Control Room in which the representatives of coal, the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and the Railway Board are joined together. Every day they discuss and sort out these problems. So that is another co-ordination unit that we have established at various levels as the mover himself suggested.

Then there is another unit that we have got between the Heavy Electricals and the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. A representative of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power is a Member of the Board of Directors of Heavy Electricals. He is supposed to have close contact with the electrical equipment that is produced. Many hon'ble Members have said that the equipment must be watched and if the delivery of equipment is not in time we should take steps to see that the country does not suffer because of that. I entirely agree with that aspect. In fact as soon as we know the final figures of power that we are going to have at the end of the Fifth Plan we must see that the equipment is delivered on schedule otherwise it becomes very difficult because a thermal station has very large number of parts, nearly 16,000, which takes very long to assemble.

Therefore, the delivery of the equipment must always be on schedule. Otherwise one will very easily miss the target, especially when we have got such a big target as we have visualised,—doubling of power production at the end of the Fourth Plan. I entirely agree with the hon. Members

that we must take steps to ensure greater co-ordination between the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and the Ministry of Heavy Engineering who are dealing with the manufacture of this equipment.

Then we are going to strengthen the Central Electricity Authority. One of the proposals we have got is to strengthen the Central Electricity Authority. It is under very serious consideration. We want to strengthen that organisation to make it really a first-class technical organisation as also a co-ordination organisation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): Would you require more time?

DR. K. L. RAO: I will take another few minutes.

Then I want to submit that the hon. Prime Minister has set up a group of the concerned Ministers—the Minister of Irrigation and Power, the Minister of Finance, the Planning Minister who is the Chairman, the Minister of Heavy Engineering, the Minister of Railways and so on—to discuss the various problems of power and see that all the bottlenecks are resolved then and there. Another point is, perhaps hon. Members are not aware that the Central Electricity Council at the Centre has 15 Members of Parliament and the various Ministries are represented there and some of the State Ministers are also its members. It meets from time to time. I think we must meet more often.

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR: When did you meet last?

DR. K. L. RAO: We met last a few months back: I do not exactly remember the date. I think the terms of reference have unfortunately said that it should meet at least once a year. That is perhaps the reason why there is some lapse. I think it should meet once in three months. I will see to it. That is a very good body

TDr. K. L. Rao]

where non-official advice can be had. The Ministers of the States are there. All the Ministries and the Planning Commission are fully represented; everybody is there. There we can discuss very thoroughly the power supply, the power problems and so on. I think it is a very good committee and it will be very helpful.

The hon. mover of the Resolution has said that this recommendation is on the lines of the Malaviya Committee Report. I understand from my colleague that the Malaviya Committee Report is under very serious consideration and they are going to take some steps on that basis. I would submit to the hon. mover and others that every step is being taken by way of trying to get better co-ordination at the various levels in the power sector and also in the fuel and other sectors. I am thankful to the hon. Members for their very learned participation in the discussion. I would request the hon. Member not to press his Resolution but kindly withdraw it. I can assure him that every effort will be made to see that power supply in the country is not retarded by any lack of co-ordination. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it has been a very useful debate and we are all grateful to the mover for giving this opportunity to this House to discuss a very important and urgent matter. My colleague, Dr. Rao, has provided all the explanations needed about this situation and how to rectify them. My Ministry also comes, in a small way though, into the picture.

Although there has not been a basic shortfall in our production of petroleum products, there has been a big strain on our fuel oil because many of the cultivators in many parts of this country, particularly in Punjab and Baryana, have switched on to

diesel generating sets because there has been a shortfall in the supply of electricity for agricultural purposes. I quite agree with the honourable Member who moved the Resolution and other Members that we need a coordinated programme of development of energy in this country. There is a committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Chakravarti, a member of the Planning Commission, which is considering this problem. In fact, they also feel that we should take a more comprehensive view of the power situation in this country. Whether it is through this board or by consultation, that is a matter which has to be considered. There is also a recommendation of the Malaviya Committee about coordination of some type or other. That has also to be considered very carefully. But there is no escape from the fact that we have to take a comprehensive view and a long-term as well as short-term view, an adjustment of the long-term and short-term arrangements, in order that our progress and development may not be retarded by the shortfall of power. Mr. Goray and also Mr. Kapur referred to the production of crude oil. It is true that the demand and the requirement of the country, so far as petroleum products are concerned, is increasing by leaps and bounds and we have not been able to keep pace so far as production of crude oil is concerned. It is a fact now that unless you go in for offshore drilling, we would not be able to produce as much oil as we would require. And offshore drilling is a matter about which we have hardly any expertise. It is a new way of exploring oil and the entire expertise is confined only to a few countries of the world. So whatever we do, we have to do like other countries which are doing in cooperation and collaboration with some of the more advanced countries. We are trying to do that. But, as you know, in such matters it requires a lot of discussion, a lot of consultation. A lot of pros and cons have to be considered. We are at present discussing these matters



although it is difficult to say what conclusions we may arrive at. But in the meanwhile the ONGC is trying to do something on its own with the help of the Japanese who have built up a platform for us and that platform has been somewhat delayed due to certain defects in the electrical installation system. But then it is hoped that it will be rectified soon and before long we will be able to start our work. As the honourable Members have suggested, today in this country all our development projects need a very close and, if I may say, a sharp look because compared to whatever we are doing now, we have to do better. There is no doubt about it. Efficiency is the crux of the situation. We have to produce more and that too as quickly as possible I am only bringing to your notice one difficulty. Now there is shortage of fertilizers all over the country. Our fertilizer factories have not done as well as they should have done. There is no doubt about it. Certainly they should do better than what they are doing now. Nonetheless in 5 P.M. Uttar Pradesh, yesterday the Chief Minister told me that he is thinking of imposing power cut on the two fertiliser factories— one in Gorakhpur and the other in Kanpur. If it is done, I am afraid there will again be a fertiliser famine in addition to power shortage. Therefore, it is necessary that we should have a co-ordinated view of the entire situation and come to certain decisions and implement them as early as possible.

I have an idea that we should put our heads together . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): Will you continue your speech .....

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I am just finishing in one minute.

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): Otherwise, we will adjourn at 5.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I am going to finish. What I was saying was there is no reason why we should not succeed in providing energy to the country's needs for its development.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): How many minutes will the mover take to reply?

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN: Just two minutes.

While I express my thanks to the hon. Member; who have participated in the deliberations in this House on the Resolution that I placed before this august House irrespective of the Party lines, and while I express my thanks to the hon. Ministers in charge of power and irrigation on the one hand and Petroleum and Chemicals on the other, who have given us the assurance that the main purpose of this Resolution will be kept in view and at the highest level utmost co-ordination will be achieved so that we can draw up a phased programme by which the objectives envisaged in the Resolution will be fulfilled, I respectfully beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution in view of the above assurances given.

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY): The House stands adjourned till 11 o'clock on Monday, the 26th February, 1973.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 26th February, 1973.