

श्री उपसभापति : पहले zero hour होने दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान)...

**Excessive Flow of Ganga River Water
to a Neighbouring country**

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I would like to raise a very serious and an important issue concerning the entire nation. This relates to excessive flow of water through the Farakka Barrage situated in the district of Murshidabad, West Bengal. On 29th June, last year, one of the gates, out of more than a hundred gates of the Farakka Barrage, was found to be broken. Thereafter, again, on 9th December, 2011, another sluice gate was broken, as a result of which - the sharing of water between India and the neighbouring country was to be 65:35, India was to get 65 per cent and the neighbouring country to get 35 per cent - the other country started getting about 85 per cent. As a result, there is not only the navigation problem in the Kolkata Port and Haldia Port, but in a lot of corporation areas, namely, the Kolkata Corporation area, Howrah Corporation area, the Chandannagar Corporation area and thirty-five other municipal areas, there have occurred a serious problem of supply of drinking water because there is no flow of water in the Bhagirathi feeder canal from Farakka to Kolkata. Unfortunately, the Farakka Barrage authorities did not inform the State Government that two of the major gates were broken. It is a criminal negligence on the part of the Farakka Barrage authorities. Sir, it is not only that excess flow of water has gone to the neighbouring country, but because the supply of water has been affected, it has also affected power generation, by NTPC, which is also situated here, resulting in a severe power crisis in West Bengal, Bihar and other States.

Thereafter, in the absence of any information and after gathering information from the local people, the State Government sent a team; it was found that a year back it had happened and no action had been taken by the Government of India.

Now, through you, Sir, I request the Government of India that the matter should be probed to find out who are the people responsible for this criminal negligence; the responsibility should be fixed and immediate steps should be taken so that a further reoccurrence of such incidents does not happen.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir, we associate ourselves with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right. Shri Khuntia.

Proposed Strike by Employee's Union in Air India

SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA (Odisha) : Sir, this is a very serious matter. Eight employees' unions in Air India, involving about 28,000 workers, have given notice for stopping work from the 2nd of April. Sir, this will disrupt work and bring to halt the whole system in the entire country.