

Delay in operationalization of Haripur Nuclear Power Plant Project

SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, this is to bring to attention the significant delays in the Haripur Nuclear Power Plant project, which was originally proposed to be constructed in the Purba Medinipur district of West Bengal. The project, envisaged as a key component of India's nuclear energy expansion plan, was expected to contribute significantly to the nation's energy security. However, it has faced numerous setbacks that have stalled its progress.

The delay in the Haripur project is a matter of concern, as it hampers the region's potential to benefit from clean and reliable nuclear energy. It is imperative that all stakeholders work together to resolve these issues and move the project forward while ensuring the safety and well-being of the affected communities. I urge the Government to look into it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Golla Baburao; 'Concern over privatisation and disinvestment of the RINL Vizag Steel Plant.'

Concern over privatisation and disinvestment of the RINL Vizag Steel Plant

SHRI GOLLA BABURAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, RINL, Visakhapatnam steel plant was set up only after a decade-long public agitation of "Visakha Ukku-AndhrulaHakku". Over 40 people were killed in different parts of the then undivided Andhra Pradesh during this agitation.

Sir, about 1 lakh people are dependent on the steel plant, including 17,000 permanent employees and 16,000 contractual employees. Since December 2020, the company is making a monthly profit of ₹200 Crores. The steel plant, launched with 1.7 million tonnes capacity was later expanded to 7.3 million tonnes without any financial support from the Centre. Therefore, it makes no economic sense to privatise the steel plant.

As per the Union Ministry of Steel's report, Vizag Steel Plant is the only steel-manufacturing PSE in the country that has no captive iron ore mine. The losses were majorly due to the lack of captive mines due to which the RINL has to procure the iron ore at market price. Taking into account the pride, sentiment and interests of people in Andhra, I would request the Central Government to reconsider this decision of privatising Vizag Steel Plant. Thank you.