

any of the power projects in Andhra Pradesh has not been included in the core of the Plan?

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** Power projects in Andhra Pradesh are included in the core of the Plan.

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** I may add that those power projects which are in an advanced stage of construction, although not included in the core of the Plan, have been given core priority.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the Sileru power project has been included in the core of the Plan?

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** Among the power projects included are Machkund, Tungabhadra and Ramagundam projects.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know the total amount that has been allocated for Singareni Collieries for the Plan period?

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** I shall require notice. I have got no break-up here.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Madhusudan Rao. (At this stage Shri Madhusudan Rao faints)

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is not well. The House will now adjourn for about 10 or 15 minutes.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned.*

*The Lok Sabha reassembled at Fifty-Four Minutes Past Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Madhusudan Rao had toothache a few days ago. He got his tooth removed two days ago, and ever since that he has been running some temperature. He had also some slight blood pressure. With all that weakness, he had come here. He is now all right.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** Thank God that he is all right.

**Mr. Speaker:** We shall now proceed to the next question.

### 'Salt Industry'

\*667. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have set up a nine-man Committee to enquire into the working of Salt Industry and to recommend measures for its development;

(b) if so, the names of its members;

(c) the detailed terms of reference and the time by which it is expected to commence its work; and

(d) the time by which it is expected to complete its work?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Sabha. The Committee has commenced its work. [See Appendix IV, annexure No 20.]

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know whether any representation has been received by Government from the salt manufacturers that the existing system of distribution of salt is defective in the sense that it favours the big salt distributors as against the small distributors?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** There is no such representation about distribution of salt. There are representations about other matters.

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know whether this committee, which the Deputy Minister says, has commenced its work, proposes to record evidence from persons engaged in the manufacture and distribution of salt, particularly the manufacturers of salt engaged in organising co-operative societies and invite suggestions from them?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** That is so. The committee will go round on tour and visit important salt manufacturing areas and take evidence from large-

as well as small producers of salt. There are representatives of both on the committee itself, and they will also go into the question of encouraging the co-operative societies in salt manufacture.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** May I know how long this committee will take to finish its work.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Six months' time has been given to the committee.

**Shri Khimji:** May I know whether the terms of reference of this committee cover marketing of salt in India?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I have laid a statement on the Table of this House in reply to this question, giving the terms of reference of the committee.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Are consumers also represented on this committee?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Consumers are represented through a Member of this House.

**Shri Tangamani:** I find from the statement that this committee consists of ten members, which includes one Member from this House and one Member from the local Assembly. May I know on what basis the selection of the members is made?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The main salt-producing areas are Bombay, Madras, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. A representative of the larger manufacturers of salt was taken from one area; a representative of the smaller manufacturers was taken from the second area, and consumers were represented through a Member of Parliament from the third area.

**Shri Damani:** May I know what special attention is being given to the development of the salt industry in Rajasthan where there is great scope for development and improvement?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The hon. Member may send his suggestions to this committee, and they will look into it.

#### Uneconomic Industrial Units

\*698. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken stock of the uneconomic industrial units and the labour employed by them; and

(b) what steps are being taken to save labour from retrenchment by the threatened closing down of these units, particularly in the Textile Sector?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):** (a) Information is available regarding Textile Mills which have closed down completely or partially.

(b) Government have ordered investigation concerning a few mills under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. The National Industrial Development Corporation and the Industrial Finance Corporation provide loan finance to industry. The workmen affected by closures are also entitled to retrenchment compensation under the Industrial Disputes Act.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know whether, apart from the mills which have closed down, Government have taken stock of the uneconomic units existing in the country and working under difficulty?

**The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda):** That larger question is also before us, and a working group in the Labour Ministry is at present engaged in studying the whole of this problem. Information is being collected, and some recommendations will follow from that.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Has the Minister got any idea of the entire labour engaged in such enterprises?

**Shri Nanda:** Yes. For example, we have given the numbers who were employed in these textile units which are now closed, in the statement. In the other units also, we know what the numbers are.