

expressed its inability to do so. Therefore the Central Government decided to consider the question of clearance of project on the basis of availability of 1.5 million cubic metres of gas to each project, on variable load factor.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, that the issue has been repeatedly raised in the House and also by the Gujarat Movement, but even then changes are being done in the scheme from time to time, further aggravating the power position in Gujarat. As a result adequate power is not being made available to farmers in Gujarat, further complicating the already worse drought situation prevailing in the State. May I know what is the time frame set by the Government and whether Government propose to meet at all the demand of Government of Gujarat for 2.25 M.C.M.D. gas?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the power crisis prevailing in Gujarat and whole of India is known to me and the Gandhar scheme was to be included in the eighth five year plan. This August House is well aware of the reasons for non formulation of the said scheme and the approach paper of the VIII five year plan, during the last two years. New Government in office has decided to take concrete steps to solve the power crisis and also to finalise the draft of VIII five year plan in 1992.

SHRI CHANDUBHAIDESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, because of the Gandhar gas fields, in Bhroach district of Gujarat, crops

and foodgrains of hundreds of farmers have suffered extensive damages. In view of this, whether Government propose to pay compensation to the affected farmers or not?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, question of payment of compensation by the Government does not relate to the main question. For this prior notice is required.

[English]

Employment To Tehri Dam Project Oustees

*422. **SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:** Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to give preference in employment in the Tehri Dam Project to the people of Tehri and Garhwal districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a): Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) has been following a policy of giving preference to local people of Tehri and Garhwal Districts in the matter of employment.

(b): The details are as under:-

Category	Total No. Recruited	Persons belonging to Tehri and other Districts of Garhwal
Non-Supervisory	651	448 (68.8%)
Supervisory	196	79 (40.3%)
Executives	261	35 (13.4%)
	1108*	562

* Excluding deputationists and Workcharge & Muster Roll employees taken over from U.P. Irrigation Department.

(c) Does not arise

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is indeed ironical that the Member who had opposed the construction of the Tehri Dam, only two or three days back, is today asking questions about the employment of people in that project. I would like to inform the House that out of the 651 people recruited to non-supervisory jobs, 448 (68.8%) belong to Tehri and other districts of the Garhwal region. 196 people have been recruited to Supervisory jobs, out of which 79 people belong to Tehri Garhwal region. 261 people have been recruited in the Executive Category, out of which 35 belong to that region.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Tehri Project is a national project, it belongs to the entire country, yet we have made it a point to give preference in employment to local populace and this has been done in right earnest.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon. Minister said that while on the one hand I had raised objections a couple of days ago about the Tehri Dam Project, on the other, I am raising questions about providing preferential treatment to the local population in employment. Through you, I would like to say that, whether the dam is constructed or not is altogether a different matter, but so long as the work goes on, it is our duty to see to it that there are no bunglings.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply the hon. Minister, mentioned:

[English]

"A policy to give preference to local people of Tehri and Garhwal."

[Translation]

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there are any specific parameters for recruitment to Class I, Class II, Class III and Class IV posts or there is just a vague policy. Please make it clear whether preference is given to the local people in real sense

and also elucidate the nature of instructions issued by the Minister in this regard.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has issued instructions that preference in employment should be given to locally available candidates and the recruitment is being made on this basis.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to enumerate as to what are the Government's instructions in this regard so that we can inform our constituents about it. Mr. Speaker, sir, the hon. Minister stated that a total of 1208 people have so far been given employment. But he has also stated that this number is:

[English]

"Excluding deputationists and Workcharge and Muster Roll Employees"

[Translation]

Now, I would like to know whether the employees engaged on Muster Roll too are brought on deputation. There is so much unemployment in the region. Still, why employment is not being provided to the local people?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, the Tehri project, is an all-India project. It does not belong to Tehri District alone. Preference is given to local population in the matter of employment, but recruitment to reserved jobs would be made on an all-India basis.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the total number of people employed in this project and the number of local people given employment so far.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: I have already answered this question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The statistics are available with the hon. Minister. You can get the necessary information from him.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH: When the Tehri Dam was being constructed, the people of Tehri Garhwal were given an assurance that a majority of the people would be taken in employment from the affected areas of the district of Tehri Garhwal. Now, the hon. Minister is saying that it is an all-India Project: maybe it is an all-India Project, but the affected people of Tehri Garhwal were given an assurance that they would be employed when the Dam was being constructed.

Will the hon. Minister give an assurance that from now onwards only the people from Tehri Garhwal will be employed and not from anywhere else?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: I want to tell him that Rs. 4500 crores have been earmarked for rehabilitation purpose; and preferential treatment is being given to the local people. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered it.

[*Translation*]

Halt of Express Trains At Pura Station, Northern Railway

*423. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no halt of any express train at Pura Station in Allahabad Division;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide a halt for express trains at this station;

(c) if so, the names of the trains proposed to be provided a halt at this station and the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Poor traffic offering.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier some Express trains used to have a halt at Para Station in Aligarh District, but that has been stopped. Daily, hundreds of people from Delhi travel to the District headquarters, Lucknow and Allahabad but no railway facility is available for these passengers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the reasons for withdrawing halting of express and goods trains at this station. I would also like to know whether there is any proposal to provide a halt for trains there.

[*English*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, Para is a road-side station on Hathras Junction-Tundla section. Because of poor traffic there is no possibility to give a halt for the mail or express trains.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Mr. Speaker, sir, the hon. Minister said that the Station is in Danda District, but it falls in District Aligarh. I originally hail from Bijnor. All the trains running on the Jammu-Howrah railway line, including Mail and Express trains, stop after every 15 or 20 kilometers. Now, I would like to know whether the Government