

Mr. Speaker: There is nothing to learn. We can learn much from him.

Shri Hem Barua: No, Sir. The question is this.....

Shri D. C. Sharma: Will it not bring down the tone and the standard of Lok Sabha if he talks about wives of other people who are not present here?

Shri Hem Barua: I shall leave it to Mr. Sharma to contact them directly. May I know whether . . .

Mr. Speaker: Was there some complaint against the Chief Minister and his wife?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am not aware.

Shri Hem Barua: That was not my question. The question was . . .

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow more.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what had prevented the Government from doing this work so far and whether the Government will expedite this work as this is coming again and again on the floor of the House.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The constitutional position should be familiar to the hon. Members. The Auditor-General occupies an independent position. He occupies the same position vis-a-vis the Government of India as he occupies vis-a-vis the Government of Orissa. He has been asked in this instance to make a report. Naturally, he will report to the Orissa Government. We can ask for a copy. All that the Government of India could do is to obtain the information and pass it on to the hon. Members of the House. The Government of India is not directly concerned with the affairs of Orissa excepting so far as special responsibilities are concerned and this does not form part of the direct responsibility of the Government of India.

Shri Ranga: I am glad the Finance Minister has once again reaffirmed the independence of the Auditor-General. But I would like to know, when there is already the Accountant-General

functioning under the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India in Orissa, why is it that he found it necessary to order a special inquiry? was it because the Orissa Government itself asked for it and, if so, was it because there were certain complaints made to the Orissa Government that the Orissa Government asked for this special inquiry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is difficult for me to give a complete picture of cause and effect. It is perfectly obvious that the Auditor-General would not have acted *suo motu* because he might not have known about this matter, but I think that a request had come from the Orissa Government to the Auditor-General. Whether the Accountant-General is competent, or whether a special officer is to be appointed or not is a matter which is entirely within the purview of the Auditor-General's discretion.

बीकानेर में तापीय विद्युत् केंद्र

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*१०७४. { श्री श्रींकार लाल बोरवा :
श्री राम हरख यादव :

क्या सिंचाई व बिजली मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बीकानेर में १०० मैगावाट का तापीय विद्युत् केंद्र स्थापित करने का विचार है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह विद्युत् केंद्र किस की सहायता से स्थापित किया जाएगा; और

(ग) इस कार्य के लिए केंद्र सरकार कितनी तथा किस रूप में सहायता देगी ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्रालय के सहाय-सचिव (श्री सै० प्र० मेहदी) : (क) से (ग). बीकानेर के निकट पलाना पर एक १०० मैगावाट तापीय विद्युत् केंद्र

के अधिष्ठापन की तजवीज विचाराधीन

खान से लिग्नाइट प्राप्त करने की सम्भाव्यता तथा अर्थ संबंधी व्यवस्था का अध्ययन किया जा रहा है। ऐसी हालत में परियोजना के लिए सहायता का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

[(a) to (c). A proposal to install a 100 MW thermal station at Palana, near Bikaner, is under consideration. The feasibility and economics of mining the lignite are under study. The question of assistance for the project does not arise at this stage.]

श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा : इस प्रश्न पर कब तक विचार पूरा कर लिया जाएगा और उससे कितने गांवों को बिजली मिलेगी ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The preliminary report about the lignite operation has been received, and a detailed report has been called for. As soon as that is received, the project will be proceeded with.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know how many villages would be electrified.

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is a question of the availability of power. 100 M.W. will be generated and that will be quite extensive

श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा : किन किन देशों से इसके लिये सहायता ली जाएगी और उनसे क्या मशीनें ली जायेंगी या किसी और रूप में सहायता ली जाएगी ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The question of aid does not arise at this stage. First of all, the project has to be processed.

Shri P. N. Kayal: In view of the reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question, namely that it is "under consideration" and "under study", may I know how many years it will take for the project to take shape?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It depends upon the study that the Rajasthan Government have to make. The lignite there has been estimated to be about 23 million tons. It is now for the Rajasthan Government to take up a detailed investigation and prove that that quantity of 23 million tons is available.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this investigation is being carried on from the Centre or whether the States have been empowered to do it?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The investigations are being done by the State Government.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it not a fact that the German experts had more than two years back examined the potential of lignite there and had submitted a report to the Central Government, and if so, may I know whether that report is of no use in this matter and what is stopping the Central Government from taking a decision on this matter?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The report that had been received earlier was a preliminary report. But now, before we install a 100 M.W. station, we have got to take steps to ensure that that much of lignite is there, for, the lignite that has been stated to be there, namely 23 million tons will be sufficient only for 50 years for 100 M.W. Therefore, we have got to be very careful about the amount of lignite that is there and that is what is called for now.

Cost Study Units

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 *1075. { Shri Harish Chandra
 Mathur:
 Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided to set up cost study