

Regarding the irregularities and mismanagement of Machkund power generation project

SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA (KORAPUT): *Dhanyavaad*, Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to raise a very important issue about irregularities and mismanagement of Machkund Power Generation Project.

Sir, this Project was established in Machkund in the District of Koraput, Odisha, which is in my parliamentary segment. It is a joint venture of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha with an agreement to use 70 per cent and 30 per cent power respectively. It was established around 50 years back and the understanding was that after 50 years, the power sharing would be 50 per cent each. But the Superintending Engineer of this particular project of the Andhra Pradesh Government is not listening to any of the demands of the Odisha Government. The power sharing is still 70 per cent and 30 per cent. They have been working without consulting the State Government.

Sir, in this respect, I would like to raise three points here before you. The first thing is that there was a medical centre at Onukudelli which was established under the Machkund Project but, unfortunately, this has been outsourced on a contractual basis to a private player where no proper care has been taken. This medical centre has now been defunct because of the mismanagement of this particular project authorities. The second thing is that there was a guest house in Jagadamba Junction, Visakhapatnam. It is a prime location. It was supposed to take care of employees and the people of the periphery areas who come for their medical needs to Visakhapatnam. But, unfortunately, this has been leased out by the Andhra Pradesh Government without any consultation with Odisha Government. The third and important point is that Machkund is also a famous place for tourism where a number of foreigners and visitors come every day. There was a winch for providing an adventurous journey to the visitors of this plant. That has also been closed citing the reason that this has been damaged. There is no effort to repair this winch by the authorities.

Sir, through you, I would like to urge upon the Ministry to take urgent action so that this mismanagement will be taken care of and the sharing, which was 50 per cent for Andhra Pradesh and 50 per cent for Odisha, will be restored back.

Thank you so much, Sir.