

[Sh. Sartaj Singh]

so far as setting up of Gas-based power plants on the H.B.J pipeline route in Madhya Pradesh is concerned. The H.B.J Gas pipeline passes through approximately 550 kilometres in Madhya Pradesh. The Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board had forwarded proposals to the Union Government for setting up gas-based power plants, but the Union Government did not give its approval to even a single proposal, although it has sanctioned the setting up of 8 power plants in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat and Rajasthan. It is obvious from this that Madhya Pradesh is being discriminated against.

The proposals include the setting up of Power Plants with a capacity of 550 Megawatt each in Jhabua, Rajgarh, Guna and Gwalior districts. The HBJ pipeline passes through all these four districts. The setting up of these power plants would not only accelerate the development process in Madhya Pradesh, but also considerably reduce the power shortage faced by the country. At present, Madhya Pradesh is facing a power shortage of twenty percent which is expected to rise upto thirty-five percent in the next eight years. Therefore, it is very much important that the Union Government give its approval to the proposals for setting up these gas based power plants. Although the gas pipeline passes through 550 kilometres of Madhya Pradesh, it has been allowed to utilise only ten percent of the gas, while Uttar Pradesh has been given a lion's share of sixty-six percent. It is requested that this anomaly be rectified, as early as possible.

(iv) **Need to set up industries in Dhanduka, Viramgam, Chholera of Ahmedabad district, Gujarat**

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, drought is a regular feature in Dhanduka, Viramgam and Chholera areas of Ahmedabad district and also in Gadhada district. As a result of this, the rural folk are forced to migrate to the cities. Therefore, I request the hon.

Industry Minister to see to it that some or the other industry is set up in these districts with the assistance of the Union Government to provide means of livelihood to poverty stricken villagers of that area. Our Government is committed to the upliftment of the poorer sections of the society. I hope that the necessary provision would be made in the Budget for the current year.

[English]

(v) **Need for early repairing of Jokodia dam on river Brahmani**

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Sir, Jokodia Dam was constructed during the British period on the river Brahmani. As a result it was helping not only in transportation from Chandabali to Cuttack on boat but also vast areas of Cuttack and Balasore districts were getting irrigation.

Subsequently this dam has become non-functional. At present the water of Rengali dam passes through the Brahmani into the sea. By repairing Jakodia dam the surplus water of the river can be utilised for irrigating lakhs and lakhs acres of land of Rasalpur, Bari and Jajpur Blocks of Jajpur Sub-division.

Apart from this the surplus water may also pass through the river Baitarani. As a result the irrigated areas of Jajpur sub-division can yield double-crops by getting enough water from the dam at Rudhia on the river Baitarani.

I urge upon the Central Government to help and take quick steps for implementing this project.

(vi) **Need to ameliorate the lot of workers of Coal mining industry**

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol): Sir, the coal mining industry which supplies major part of energy does not show adequate growth despite large doses of mechanisation in