

[S. Sriballav Panigrahi]

foodgrains by doing away with the present intermediately system exploiting the workers should be fulfilled without further delay. It is surprising that the judgements passed by some of the High Courts and even the Supreme Court of India in this regard are not being respected by the FCI on some pretext or the other giving rise to discontentment and resentment among the workers.

Further, the workers of the FCI in Orissa are now very much panicky on account of any possible victimisation. This is likely to adversely affect the working of FCI in Orissa.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government to take appropriate steps in this regard.

(vi) Need for early Completion of Hirakud Stage III Hydel Power Project, Orissa

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Orissa is suffering from power shortage. Agricultural and industrial development is being hampered due to a shortfall of more than 700 MW power which is required immediately.

The Government of India has set a high priority for the development of infrastructure like power generation and communication.

It is in this background that the State of Orissa has been pleading with the Central Government regarding the Hiraakud State-III popularly known as the Sindhol Complex - to generate hydro power from the Mahanadi river in Sambalpur and Bolangir districts of Orissa.

There is need for generation of additional hydel power using the Hiraakud reservoir water as well as the tail race water of Burla and Chiplima Power House. The project envisages power development in the Mahanadi river utilising available head over a stretch of about 80 kms. of the river from Diaaon to Godhaneswar.

The cascade development is one of the proposals comprising of three barrages in series - across the river Mahanadi at Deogaon, Kapsira and Godhaneswar, near Dhuleswar. The Power houses for the barrages at Deogaon and Kapsira are proposed to be built in to the barrages whereas the barrage at Godhaneswar is a diversion barrage from which power channel, 7.5 km. long feeding to fore bay at Dhuleswar power, with discharge to the river Mahanadi.

The total cost is envisaged at Rs. 981 crore and will have no adverse impact on the ecology, environment, nor will it submerge any forest land or displace any village.

I request the Union Government to take up this project utilising renewable source i. e. water and also provide communication across Mahanadi to inaccessible areas apart from generating 370 MW of hydel power, which is the only one in Eastern India in the 8th Plan.

(vii) Need to declare Azamgarh-Mau-Ballia road as a National Highway

[Translation]

SHRI RAMBADAN (Lalganj): Mr. Chairman, sir, the condition of roads from Sultanpur to Ballia which pass through Shahganj, Azamgarh and Aau districts is very pitiable. In the absence of broad gauge railway line the trains passing through this area are also in bad condition. There is a town named Mubarakpur on the above road in Azamgarh which is famous for its Banarasi saris and other crafts. In addition Mau is an industrial district headquarter and the town has thousand of handloom factories. Keeping in view the inconvenience of transportation, it is very necessary to declare Sultanpur-Azamgarh-Mau-Ballia road whose length is 250 kms, a National Highway. So that the entire backward area could be developed along with the industrial towns located enroute.