

been going through a severe power crisis. The successive poor monsoons during the last four years have also contributed to the problem in the power sector. The State Government has been planning to take up schemes in the power sector on priority basis.

The project which requires Government of India's clearance is Kalinadi Hydro Electric Project Stage-II. The State Government has also submitted its proposal for Kadre scheme for clearance from the Department of Forests and Environment on 25.7.1985 and revised proposal was submitted by the State Government on 9.4.1986. All the clarifications were forwarded on 4.7.1986. Full and detailed facts were submitted to the Indian Government on 22.10.86.

Sir, so far nothing has come out. I, therefore, request that since the State is facing severe power shortage, the clearance for the release of forests land as per requirement of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, should be immediately given so that the work on Kalinadi Hydro Electric Project Stage II could be started, which will help the State Government to overcome the power shortage.

**(vii) Demand for measures to increase export of Sesame Oilseeds.**

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): It has been reported that though the Government of India have released about 10,000 tonnes of sesame oilseeds for exports during the current financial year, there is hardly any export that has materialised so far. In spite of the best efforts to canalise its exports through NAFED, for the last three years the average export of this item has never exceeded 4000 tonnes per annum. The reason for very low export situation is mainly due to prevailing high-cost within the country and very keen competition in the world market by countries like Sudan and China which have resorted to undercutting of its price against the interests of India.

However, with proper planning and sincere efforts it should be possible to increase the export of sesame oilseeds to the extent of 20,000 tonnes per annum which can earn foreign exchange worth over 20 crores of rupees. With the cooperation of private trade and also extending some incentives to the exporters, it should be possible for the commodity to compete very favourably in the world market and earn foreign exchange for the country.

I would, therefore, request the Ministry of Agriculture to take immediate steps to save the growers as also arrange to export this item which can earn foreign exchange.

**(viii) Need to accord legal sanction to the 15 Point Programme for ameliorating condition of minorities so as to expedite its effective implementation.**

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): In May 1983 the then Prime Minister late Smt. Indira Gandhi formulated a 15-point programme to ameliorate the condition of minorities. It is now nearly four years, but there is hardly any appreciable implementation of the programme. There is neither any improvement in the recruitment from minorities to Government, police or public sector services nor have higher educational institutions, IITs and polytechnics come up in predominantly minority areas as envisaged in the programme. Claims to and encroachment upon places of religious significance are on the increase with indifferent attitude of the Government despite directive in the said programme to deal with such problems expeditiously and satisfactorily.

I urge upon the Government to accord legal sanction to the 15-point programme to secure its due implementation and effective monitoring on a continuing basis.