

sion has not yet been implemented, whereas it was approved during the Sixth Five Year Plan period itself. The then Agriculture Minister had approved it and directed to implement it all over the country. After the establishment of this department, exploitation of our farmers will come to an end. In 1985, due to adulterated insecticides, great loss was caused to sugarcane crop as it was affected by *Pyrrilla*. I request the Government to set up the Enforcement Cell immediately.

17.37 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 1986-87—Contd.

MINISTRY OF ENERGY—Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri A. P. Sethi.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI (Bhadrak) : I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy. Before I speak I am pained to say that I am a representative of a State where the State is facing an acute power shortage which is unthinkable. I belong to a State, that is, Orissa which is now facing a power crisis and an acute shortage of power. On an average there is a power cut of 60% daily and for this we are time and again approaching the Central Government to come to the rescue of the State Government. We generate power only from the hydel-based system and we always depend on a good monsoon. But for the last two years this hydel-based system is facing a lot of problems due to lower water level. We are approaching time and again the Government that to overcome this problem they should give us at least two super thermal power stations—one at Talcher and another at Ibvalley where we have abundant natural resources with which we can give much mineral, that is, coal which is available at Talcher as also in the Ibvalley. The ash content of the coal is very low and we can very well exploit the mineral and overcome the situation we are facing in Orissa.

In Orissa now there is a 75% power cut for the heavy industry as also for the small scale industry as also in the agricultural Sector. We are not able to provide power to the agricultural Sector. Thereby we deprive the agriculturists an opportunity to come up to the expectation of the people and grow more food. In the heavy industries as also in the small scale sector most of the units are on the verge of closing down or they have drastically cut down their production and they are incurring losses every year. So, to overcome all these things, there is a proposal from the Government of Orissa that the Central Government should give some honourable allocation of power from the Central Sector to the Government of Orissa—at least to the extent of 250 mega watt. Our total requirement is about 800 mega watt. Our generating capacity is only 524 mega watt as against the installed capacity of 1134 mega watt. So, we are facing such an acute power problem. I would request the hon. Minister to see to it and give at least 250 mega-watt of power from the Central Sector. We are now getting power from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the extent of 100 m.w. and 40 m.w. respectively. But, now due to their difficulty, they are unable to give this much of power to the Government of Orissa. Orissa is faced with a lot of difficulty and in the coming months, Orissa will face acute problem again as far as powers is concerned. Because of power cut, 80 to 90 per cent of the Heavy Industry and Small Scale Industries are suffering very much. As far as the agricultural sector is concerned, due to non-availability of power, they are also not able to get water.

Orissa is a backward State. I would request our hon. Minister for Energy to give serious consideration to our projects in the State Sector plan which have been under the consideration of the Government and take immediate steps so that while we are facing the problems in the Seventh Plan, at least at the beginning of the Eighth Plan, we will overcome the situation and our State will be self-sufficient. So, when we think of becoming self-sufficient by 2000 A. D., if these programmes are not taken up soon, then our

[Shri Ananta Prasad Sethi]

State may not be able to jump from the 20th century to the 21st century. So, I would request the hon. Minister to give serious consideration to our projects—Bally and the Talcher Super Thermal Power Station—in the Central Sector.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should have added one thing, the Permanent commissioning of nuclear power. That is what you need in Orissa.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy. The dreams, hopes and aspirations of our country are linked with the crucial input "Energy". The entire economy of our country is based on our efficiency of producing energy. In the energy sector, we see there is an increase in generation over the previous years and in the last three decades also, there is definite change. But what I want to say is that we are not reaching the demand. When we are not keeping pace with the demand, the power crisis arises. As it is, there has been a shortfall in hydro-generation as compared with the programme on account of low hydel reservoir levels. It is unfortunate that only 17 per cent of the hydel potential has been exploited. The requirement is largely met by the increased thermal power. When I say that we are not able to meet the demand, various factors are coming into the picture, like low hydel reservoir level,

13.45 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI
in the Chair]

decrease in the water level affecting power generation, too long gestation period for new hydel projects and not taking up much in advance at appropriate time of the new thermal power projects.

I am not saying that the power crisis has gone high. I know that many States are facing serious situation with regard to power. 75% of power cut is being im-

posed on industrial sector and agricultural sector. Therefore, the normal life of the people is also affected.

When I speak of my State, Orissa is passing through serious power crisis. Upto 1980 there was an average demand of 350 MW. The current demand is approximately 800 MW. Because of rapid industrialisation there has been 20% of compound growth in the demand for power.

Whenever we say of the power crisis of the State, we have been pointed out the plant load factor of the Thermal Power Station at Talcher. But our Energy Minister must have realised the deficiency of the plant, its defective machinery including the mal-functioning of the electrostatic precipitator in the old four units, inherent design deficiency in providing ID fan, coal conveyor system which was operating under constraint, units supplied by BHEL are not functioning to that satisfaction, the supply of coal and also the mis-match between supply and off-take of coal due to lack of bunker by Central Coal Fields and so on.

I must say that much efforts are being put to solve the bottleneck, to solve the deficiency of the plant and also much efforts are being put to look to the management at the top level, both at the State Electricity Board Hqs. and Power Station have been revamped. As a result, only recently, the power generation and the plant load factor of the Thermal plant has gone upto 50% from 32%.

With some hydro projects nothing can be done if the water level decreases, that is what is happening in our State today. Even if operating performance touches the level of firm capacity of power station, the average power production will not reach the demand. The deficit will increase to 1050 MW by the end of 7th Plan. The growth project was projected to the CEA, who after taking account both the projects have estimated that the total requirements of firm power in 1989-90 would be 1724 MW.

From this, we will not be able to get

sufficient power. We should get power from the neighbouring States who can supply us and all these things are there where the Minister can look into.

Of course, I must thank the Minister because realising the difficulties of the power situation in Orissa they have approved a Super Thermal Power Station which has been lined for world bank credit, the Working Group has recommended that this Super Thermal Project should start immediately and the Working Group has also recommended that it should start in 1986-87.

I also draw the attention of the Minister to IB Valley Thermal Power Project which the State Government is doing on its own. For this the proposal of the State Government for permission to avail of suppliers of credit from abroad is pending for the approval of the Central Government. I request for its early clearance.

I must say, when I am talking of the power situation, that we have to take a comprehensive view of the power situation. Several announcements have been made by the Energy Minister regarding permitting the private sector to set up power plants but nothing concrete has materialised. Except captive power plants no power plant has been allowed to be set up in the private sector. Even a consortium of captive users are not allowed to set up a power plant.

Secondly the policy regarding import of power plant should be reviewed realistically. Several packages are available from different countries regarding power plant and suppliers' credit on attractive financial terms but these are not being permitted even for the public sector. Here I must say it is not possible for the State to provide funds for these projects in the State plan. So Central Government should take a liberal view on this.

Now, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to urgent steps to be taken for the development of coal fields at Talcher and Ib valley of Orissa. In addition to the use by large local industries of thermal plant at Talcher the coal

fields would fetch heavy demand in future from the super-thermal plant and also 'A' Co's large captive thermal plant. Unless coal development is expedited in advance these two power projects will face difficulty. Similarly in Ib valley the thermal plant is coming up and advance action should be taken for raising of coal after 3-4 years.

In this connection I would like to say it is unfortunate that recently a new coal company with headquarters at Bilaspur has been formed but even a coal Division could not be formed at Orissa. The people of Orissa have been pleading for a long time for the creation of a separate coal company in view of the large potential and programme. I would request that this may be considered favourably and pending creation of the separate company a coal Division should be created for Orissa.

Now I come to non-conventional energy and this is a new area and it is growing in its importance. Government is devoting its attention to find ways and means to increasing the use of renewable sources of energy in order to reduce the load on non-renewable sources. In the last few years we have, of course, made some efforts and some measure of success both in individual and community bio-gas plants is there. Upto March 1985 there are 101 community bio-gas plants but still more emphasis should be on the community bio-gas and a number of demonstration units in different States should be set-up by the Government. We have to make a beginning in developing bio-gas plants entirely based on bio-mass other than cow-dung. Bio-gas plants based on hyacinth should be developed so that rural areas get free from the menace of this weed. Solar heaters and solar cookers have found acceptance among the people. This is an area where lot of progress can be made. We are glad to know that improved 'chullah' and solar thermal energy programme have been further expanded. I would also like to stress on wind energy. Wind turbine and large wind farms can be set-up along our coastal area to generate power. Such wind turbines are now commercially marketed in USA and Denmark. We should also

[Smt. Jayanti Patnaik]

generate indigenous production. Coastal States will get benefit from this project. Government of India should mount a big programme on this. If you see the energy demand on the household sector we find 80 per cent of energy consumption comes from the non-commercial sources consisting of fire-wood. Five to six million households use kerosene and the price of kerosene has also gone up.

Sir, there should be some provision made in the Department of Energy for energy plantation considering the shortage of fuel wood and pressure on forest wealth. This programme should be given more emphasis. Sir, with these words, I support the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Energy.

[Translation]

*SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Madam, Chairman, first of all I must thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the debate on the demands for grants of the Ministry of Energy. Madam I will speak in Bengali. As you are aware, energy is the basic component for the development of the country.

I want to say very clearly that after 38 years of our independence, we do not have a rational economic policy and without a rational economic policy there cannot be a rational energy policy. Madam we are assembled here to discuss about a very important Ministry which deal with coal and power. But for this important discussion only 6 hours have been allotted. Without the development of coal and power the country can never make any progress. You know that even 38 years of independence it has been admitted in the plan document that in our country half of the population lives below the poverty line and the number of persons who are illiterate is increasing. And in our country every 6th child is a child labour. Only 10% people of our country enjoy 40% of the goods and services and 40% people of the lower strata has access to only 10% of the goods

* The speech was originally delivered in Bengali.

and services of the country. But so far as natural resources are concerned, our country is endowed with unlimited wealth of natural resources. We have got great rivers, we have got mines, we have got minerals in fact we have got everything. In spite of that poverty, starvation, illiteracy, unemployment and child labour is increasing in our country day by day. We do not know where the solution lies. That is why I say that without a rational economic policy there cannot be a rational energy policy. When we were under foreign rule, we know that the British ruled and exploited us. But after 1947 when we became independent, till 1986 what progress have we made in the energy sector let us make a comparative study. Madam Chairman, I want to tell the hon. Minister who frequently talks about the socialist countries that take the case of our neighbouring country like China. At the time of independence, the per capita consumption of commercial energy in China and India was identical. What is the situation today? Today China is exporting energy whereas we are importing energy. Why is it so? This is so because China has freed its people from exploitation. The workers there direct the entire social and administrative systems. Moreover they have used the natural resources of their country correctly and properly and they have developed their own technology as well. But in our country we have failed to use our natural resources properly and because of our dependence on foreign countries and our dependence on imports, we have not been able to develop our technology as well. We have a vast deposit of coal. Do you know that there is technology to gasify coal and to get oil out of it. We have not been able to use that technology till today although we are importing huge quantity of oil. If we could use coal and power fully, then we could produce fertilizers, cement and other non ferrous materials from coal itself and could make our country self sufficient in these matters. But the Congress party who are running the Government of the country and are managing its finances, often say that the reason for our not becoming self-sufficient is the constraint of financial resources. Is it a fact? If no progress is possible for want of money then how could Soviet

Russia take such long strides in the field of energy production after 1917? They today occupy the highest position in the world in the field of energy production. Therefore if Soviet Russia, which was a backward country in 1917, can today attain the highest pinnacle in energy production, then why cannot we achieve the same in spite of having such abundant natural resources? Shortage of financial resources is merely an excuse. This situation is there only because we do not have any current policies, plans and perspective.

I am talking of the coal industry. We are told that the workers are responsible for the low production and other ills of the coal industry. But if we had the system of taking the workers with us to exploit the natural resources, then we could also achieve what Russia had achieved or China has achieved. We do not have such a policy and keep on blaming the workers unjustifiably and unreasonably.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing any interruptions, please continue.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Madam Chairman, I am coming to the conditions in the coal industry. Madam, the National Wage Agreement has not yet been implemented. In the last meeting of the JBCCI where the hon. Minister was also present, this issue was discussed and I will urge that the agreement of National Wage Board III may be fully implemented immediately. The leader of INTUC, also said that this agreement is not being implemented for a long time, 3/4 years have already passed.

Now a word about workers' participation in management. This is the policy of the Government of India that those workers who are members of the unions, will be able to participate in management. But this policy is getting dangerously disturbed in the coal field areas. Union membership forms are being snatched away from the workers. Many a times the management is handing over these forms to the Mafia gangs. There are various other irregularities but no remedial measures are being taken. In the

last meeting held in Delhi, where the hon. Minister was also present, all the unions unitedly demanded that workers' participation in management may be arranged through secret ballot. Therefore I will request that since all the unions have agreed on this, the Government may please examine the question of participation in management by means of secret ballot. I am not going into the figures of coal production etc. because all that is contained in the report of the Ministry. The report says that the present stock of coal at the pit heads is of the order of 20 million tons, and efforts are being made to increase production. But the question is what measures are being taken for the safety of all those workers who are going underground into the pits at the risk of their lives to produce this coal for the country!

Madam Chairman, the 6th Conference on safety of mines was held at Delhi on 13th and 14th January last. The hon. Minister of State for Labour was present there. Hon. President of India inaugurated that conference. He also said in his address that the decisions taken in respect of safety measures should be implemented. But you will be surprised to hear that the decisions taken at the 5th Conference had not yet been implemented at the time of holding the 6th Conference after a very long interval. You can very well see the result of this negligence. The number of deaths in mine accidents has gone up every year. In 1984, 176 coal mine workers lost their lives. Only a few days ago hon. Minister of State for Labour, Shri T.A. Sangma told this august House about the accident in the Singareni coal mine in Andhra Pradesh. Seven workers lost their lives in that accident. The cause of all these accidents is that the decisions taken in the Conference about safety measures in mines have not been implemented. Even the enquiry reports about all these accidents have been filed up. No follow up action has been taken about them. Shri Kanti Mehta of the INTUC said at the Conference that there are no Methano meters. Without Methano metres the volume of gas that is accumulating underground cannot be measured. Shri M.K. Pandha, C.I.T.U. said that there is no effort to build up the safety

[Shri Anil Basu]

system in consultation with the workers and labour. As a result of this the number of accidents is going up. For increasing production the most important factor is the labour force, the workers. If adequate safety measures are not provided for their protection who are risking their lives for producing coal, if proper welfare schemes are not there for their benefit, then it is very difficult for us to achieve our targets of production. I will request the hon. Minister to pay due attention for taking effective steps in this regard.

Now Madam Chairman, I am coming to power. Our target for power generation was 19,666 MW. in 1984-85. We have produced only 11,500 MW. and we have achieved only 58% of the target. In 1984-85 the production is 156.66 billion units, a growth of 12% over 1983-84 production. How did this increase in production come about? The only reason is that the PLF on an All India average level was edited at 50% in 1984-85 which in the previous year was 47%. This year the target has been fixed at 170 billion units. The hon. Minister will surely let us know how far we have been able to achieve that target! What is the condition of power in the country today. A little while ago when Mr. Rath was in the Chair, he enlightened me that the power shortage in Orissa is 80% and not 75%. This is a terrible situation. Bihar is facing a power shortage. Practically every State is having a shortage. Madam, a member of the Planning Commission visited Calcutta on the 4th March 1986 and he issued a statement that there is a shortage of 2% of power in West Bengal. We do not agree with that view.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Basu you have to conclude now. You have taken 15 minutes.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Madam I am coming to the Eastern region which is the worst hit among the States who are having a power shortage. When the demand of DVC is 1400 MW, its generation is only 650 to 800 M.W. Moreover, the summer season is at our door step. The hydel power generation of DVC will go down.

In Karnataka the current power shortage is to the tune of 30%. In Andhra due to the drought the hydel generation has fallen considerably. The Punjab and Delhi Chamber of Commerce says that in Punjab there is 6.50% power shortage, in Haryana the power shortage is 16.5%, in U.P. it is 25%, in Rajasthan the shortage is 65.4%, in Jammu & Kashmir there is 124.11% power shortage. In West Bengal the power shortage in summer season is 250 MWs and in winter season it is 50 MWs only. How has it been possible in West Bengal?

Madam Chairman, you will be glad to know that from 1947 to 1970, barring a period of 7/8 months when the United Front Government was in power, this Congress ruled State did not increase its power generation to any significant extent. From 1971 to 1976 during the Chief Ministership of Shri Siddharta Shankar Roy, not even 1 MW of power generation was increased in West Bengal. But from 1978 till today when the Left Front Government is in power, power generation in West Bengal has been increased by 1400 MW. Of course, the Central Government has also helped us but the fact remains that during the rule of the left Front Government power generation in West Bengal has increased by 1400 MWs in 8 years. Madam Chairman, the energy sector can be divided into two parts, the domestic conventional energy and non-conventional energy. We are not utilising the huge potential that we have got for generating hydel power. In this house it was stated in reply to a question that there is a potential of 72,000 MWs of hydel power at 60% PLF. We are able to exploit only 20% of that. In the vast areas of Assam where the mighty Brahmaputra and its tributaries are flowing, in the Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan ranges, in North Kachhar and other areas of the North Eastern region there is practically unlimited potential for generation of hydel-power. But we are unable to exploit them. It is really a matter of regret. The Eastern region is being discriminated against. Orissa is complaining, Bihar is complaining, Assam is complaining. But if the vast potential could be tapped, the position would have been quite different.

Madam Chairman, I will draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one point which has been mentioned in the report. For Farakka-I the revised estimate was Rs. 57,649 lakhs. Upto March 1985, the expenditure incurred is Rs. 36,965 lakhs. For 1986-87 the proposed allocation is Rs. 6400 lakhs. The target of commissioning is 1986-87. Then, how will you be able to achieve this? Out of Rs. 576,49 lakhs, the expenditure, incurred upto 1985—is Rs. 37,000 lakhs. You have allocated Rs. 6400 lakhs. How are you going to complete it by 1986-87? Its about Farakka-I. Regarding Farakka-II, the date of commissioning is 1991-92, and the estimated cost is Rs. 86,848 lakhs, and the allocation is only Rs. 2370 lakhs. How do you expect that it will be completed by 1991-92?

Regarding Farakka-III, the date of commissioning is 1992-93; but there is no allocation. That is why I say that you are discriminating against the north-eastern region.

My appeal to the hon. Minister is : please consider the position of the north-eastern region, and have a sympathetic attitude towards it. Don't discriminate against it. The Member of the Planning Commission said in Calcutta on 4th March last that there will be a 2% shortage of power in West Bengal. But we do not agree with him. At the end of the 7th Five Year Plan i.e. in 1990, the power shortage in West Bengal will be of the tune of 1200 MWs. Therefore we will request the hon. Minister to kindly approve the Sagardighi thermal power project at Murshidabad which we have sent to him. You are setting up the Mejhia project, perhaps you have approved the Bakreshwar project also. For this we thank you. But we will request you to give your approval for the Sagardighi project also.

About non-conventional energy I want to say that there is great scope and potential for solar and tidal energy in Orissa, West Bengal etc. I have heard that for want of indigenous generators it is found difficult to preserve the energy generated from non-conventional sources. The non-conventional energy can help our villages

to become self sufficient. Ours is a tropical country. We can generate abundant solar energy here. But we will require indigenous technology for that. The necessary generators have to be manufactured indigenously. The hon. Minister may kindly consider this also.

In the end I want to draw your attention to one more thing. Madam, before the nationalisation of the coal mines, due to private mining operations in the Raniganj area a terrible situation has developed. You cannot even imagine, vast stretches of land are subsiding in Raniganj, and it will force lakhs of the inhabitants to flee their homes. If we cannot save these vast areas of Raniganj from subsidence, if we cannot think of any alternatives and if necessary funds are not made available to the State Govt. to check this subsidence, then this vast area cannot be saved from total ruin and destruction. We must do everything possible to save those who have provided fuel for the whole country for such a long time. I invite the hon. Minister to come to Raniganj and see for himself the magnitude of the danger, and to provide necessary funds so that Raniganj may be saved.

Madam Chairman, I thank you very much for giving me the time and with that I conclude.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazari-bagh) : Madam Chairman, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister for the excellent work which he has done under the most difficult circumstances. The success which he has achieved not only in the field of coal production, but also in power generation, is commendable. We are proud that with a view to meet the requirements of coal in the country, we have made a successful efforts and after due consideration, we have produced coal as per our requirements. No funds were wasted and the job was done with due planning last year. We have formulated big plans. This report contains all the details regarding implementation of our future plans. Time and again the hon. Minister has assured the House that whenever the country needs the coal, it would be produced. The reason for his

[Shri Damodar Pandey]

assurance is that today there is sufficient stock of coal in the country and there is no shortage of it. But it seems that he has committed some mistake somewhere either inadvertently or due to some misunderstanding or at the instance of some one. We want that our production should be increased to approximately 216 million tonnes during the Seventh Five Year Plan. In the field of industrial relations the hon. Minister suggests that the people whose lands are acquired in the coal bearing areas will not be provided with work and the unskilled manpower will also not be recruited. When he mentioned about Chari Committee and Banerjee Committee, he said that we had surplus manpower but he forgot to elucidate there that actually the production had been declining due to shortage of unskilled manpower. Had the shortages been removed, B.C.C.L. and E.C.L. would have shown different results. Today when we take B.C.C.L. as a specimen we find that it, has suffered loss of crores of rupees. Almost similar is the condition of E.C.L. But one thing is not clear to us. We talk of mechanization and of reducing the manpower and when we do it then in our Seventh Five Year Plan we have planned total underground mechanization and thereafter we would be able to have total production of 70 million tonnes. In this way we would get 40 per cent production from underground and 60 per cent from open cast mines. For 80 million tonnes of production we would have to depend on underground manual work. Today I can claim that if we bring in the miners who used to load the coal ten years ago in B.C.C.L. and E.C.L., then B.C.C.L. can earn a profit of Rs. 20 crores per month. B.C.C.L. will not suffer any loss. Nobody has thought in this direction, which is very unfortunate. I hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention towards it.

The people who are doing manual labour and who are surplus, do not have any work to do. On the other hand, they complain of shortage of manual labour and say that there is loss of work due to their shortage. We hope the hon. Minister will look into it.

Just now our colleague from C.P.M. was speaking. He had said a lot of things which were not supposed to be spoken here. I do not know why he was wearing *dhotti-ku-tha*, as snow might be falling in Moscow. He was supposed to wear a coat. He said that China and USSR produced 600 million tonnes and 700 million tonnes of coal respectively. This might be their requirement. He forgets the fact that these countries have a very cold climate. They do not have that much of energy as we have by the grace of God. They are using 70 per cent of the energy for household purposes. We have abundant energy and moreover we do not have to spend it in winter season to keep our houses warm. If we follow them, we can also produce 700 million tonnes of coal. It is not that we do not have deposits of coal. But has he ever thought as to what shall we do with so much of coal? We shall produce coal as per our requirements. We shall not ruin our economy by blindly following others. Only those people can indulge in such talks, who do not love their country. Whatever one hears or sees outside, one says here, but it is not in the interest of the nation. Otherwise, one is free to say anything.

As I was saying, we would have to depend on manual labour and whatever funds we may invest, whatever amount we may spend, we should also consider about the manual labour. When we talk about the manual labour it also includes the question of industrial relations. We could not do well in the field of industrial relations as it should have been.

Madam, you might be aware that coal miners of the entire country have given a notice of one days strike. If no agreement is reached, then on 10th instant, 7 lakh coal miners will go on one-day's strike. They are not fighting for any new issue or any new demand. They only have one demand and that is to secure the implementation of the agreement which has already been reached. Whatever you have agreed earlier, you now refuse to implement. The agreements are made to be implemented only. This agreement was reached after due consideration. Now you say that it is unconstitutional. Why did

you not raise this question of constitutionality at the time of finalisation of this agreement when all the representatives i.e. the representatives of Government, the company as also the representatives of the workers were also present? If today one says that it is unconstitutional, then who is going to decide it? We or the owners? We do not say that it is unconstitutional. If there is something unconstitutional, then we would be the last persons to do it. But one should tell as to what is unconstitutional in it. Merely by saying in the meetings or somewhere else, you can neither term it as unconstitutional nor say that you are not going to implement it. This is a wrong practice. If you construct a house. What problems can you have, drinking water should be available for that and what is; unconstitutional in implementing that project? You have said in your report that there is surplus man power at one place and shortage at another place. You want to send people, but have you ever thought as to how they would reach there, how they would live and work there as transport facilities and houses have not been made available there. It should be given a thought. A lot of other issues are there such as expenditure on education and agreement contains a lot of other issues. There are many other things which have not been implemented so far. The labourers are very much aggrieved and are feeling agitated. I want that the Minister should give an assurance that in future steps would be taken to implement such agreements and no obstacles would be allowed to be created in their implementation.

Madam, just imagine that the term of the agreement of D.B.C. has expired nine months ago. You are negotiating with the only recognized union. There is no political hindrance or any other problem but still no agreement could be reached for the last nine months. This agreement is pending with Centre. Sometimes they talk of giving 10 per cent, and then again of 14 per cent and yet a third time of 16 per cent. The company like D.B.C. which has earned a net profit of Rs. 44 crores after paying the taxes, wants to effect a mutual agreement but it is not

being allowed to effect an agreement with the union. How will the things move then? I want that the hon. Minister should give a serious thought to it.

I want to say something about power. My predecessors have spoken about their respective areas. There is no doubt that the eastern region has remained neglected and the work which should have been done has not actually been done.

The power situation in the State of Bihar is such that its total installed capacity is less than that of the city of Delhi. The ratio of Hydel and Thermal power is not proper and consequently the plant load factor is less. The only reason is that the machinery goes out of order and so we must make an effort to remedy the situation. A large portion of the hon. Minister's department is in that area. The loss incurred by the coal mines must be a matter of concern for him and a simple solution could be to ensure regular supply of electricity to the coal mines. Was this point ever considered by him? Electricity is not supplied to the mines continuously for nine hours in a day and even the timings of power supply are not fixed. The power supply is very erratic. When the people are working underground and there is sudden power failure, then all the workers have to come out, as there is risk to their lives. If under such circumstances, power plant load factor and installed capacity is not increased, then the situation cannot be improved. You may go on formulating several plans and schemes and indulge in tall talks, but those would not be practicable. That is why I want to say... (*Interruptions*)

The hon. Minister has visited that area, and he has seen that the Almighty has blessed it with natural wealth and if we harness that wealth, the people of that region would prosper. There has been a talk going on about the installation of a Super Thermal Power Station and to feed that power station, they would have to bear a loss of Rs. 100 per tonnes on coal. But they would not set it up in an area where the necessary infrastructure like coal and water is already available and also where coal can be made available at

[Shri Damodar Pandey]

a profit of Rs. 100 per tonnes. The Minister has declared North Karanpura to be an ideal site for setting up the Super Thermal Power Station. But this proposal is not even at the stage of consideration. And we are not aware at what stage it stands at present. If we want to utilise the power potential of our country and generate power at the minimum cost and also make it available to one and all, we must make every effort, otherwise we shall lag behind in our targets. Madam, I wish to submit one or two more points.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you going to the next point ?

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. You have taken much time.

[Translation]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY : I am not saying anything irrelevant.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : More than ten minutes you have taken.

[Translation]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY : The hon. Minister is also responsible for the Department of Non-Conventional Sources of Energy. Successful experiments have been carried out and are still continuing for generating energy by wind mill, Sun rays and biogas. In my opinion, wherever we are facing acute shortage of energy, we should make use of the Non-Conventional Sources of energy for generation of power. And there must be a greater thrust in this area. In Bihar, there are several places where power supply is not available for days together. What is the relevance of rural electrification programme, if a pump is energised only once in a while by connecting it with a wire and then it stop functioning due to continuous power failure for months together? What would be

the use of such a pump ? Would it not be better, if we use energy from the non-conventional sources for meeting the minimum power requirements for irrigation ? If we can make efforts in those areas where there is acute shortage of power, I believe this would be an important step and would benefit the people of Bihar. I want to say a lot, but I would conclude as per your orders. I request that my suggestions may be considered.

[English]

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : While supporting the Demands for Grants of this Ministry, I wish to make a few points. With the expansion of agricultural and industrial activities in the country; the need for electricity has greatly increased. Energy is a vital factor for the development and progress of the country. There is a big gap between demand and supply. So, we should increase the generation of electricity. We are facing frequent power cuts in the country. Power shortage greatly affects the industrial and agricultural activities of the country. The full capacity of our industrial and agricultural sector remains utilised due to this power shortage. Our farmers apart from industrialists are facing crisis because of power shortage.

14.32 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Sir, the per capita consumption of electricity has gone up in the developed countries. According to the 1981 figures, the per capita consumption of electricity in Canada is 14,000 units whereas in India, it is only 175 units. So, we are lagging very much behind in comparison with other developed countries. Unless we take immediate action for greater generation of power, the Energy sector would pose a major constraint in the agricultural economic and industrial development and progress of our country. Of course, the quantum of generation of electricity has increased substantially in 1986 compared to 1947. But there is greater need for more electricity generation to cope up with the demands of our farmers, industrialists and others.

We have got the Central Projects and the State Projects in the Energy sector. There are State Projects which are managed by the State Electricity Boards. When we compare these two, we would find that the Central Projects are managed satisfactorily; but the State Electricity Boards are not managed satisfactorily. They manage about 85% of the powers generation in the country. Better performance by these Electricity Boards is absolutely necessary for the satisfactory position of electricity in our country. Also, there is no uniformity in the generation and consumption of electricity in our country. There is regional imbalance and in some regions the consumption of electricity is also very low. For the uniform economic development of our country electricity generation and development also should be uniform and there should be no regional disparity. Many States lag behind in the generation of electricity and certain regions are also lagging behind other regions in respect of development. It may be due to constraint of financial resources in some States and the Central should come forward to instal thermal power stations and hydro electric projects in such places. We have not fully tapped hydro electric resources. Comparatively the investment is less for hydro electric projects and in modern days more and more countries are trying to go in more for hydro-electric generation than for thermal generation since hydro electric generation is less expensive and more convenient and so we have to go in for tapping hydro electric resources.

[Sir, the transmission loss is 21 per cent as stated in the Report. That is due to mismanagement, leakages and thefts or due to long distance distribution of power and due to other reasons. By our engineering skill, by frequent checks and by better management it can be minimised. By research work also it could be minimised.

Another point I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that persons living in cities and towns are provided with more electricity facilities than persons in the villages. On page 12 of the Report it is stated that in the year 1985-86, 20,648 villages and 3,95,783 pumpsets have been targeted for electrification and energisation respectively. But the achieve-

ment is only 10,677 villages which were electrified and 2,47,597 pumpsets which are energised up to 31.1.86. So, it is highly necessary that these targets have to be achieved and more attention is to be paid for electrification of villages and also for energisation of pumpsets.

Another point I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that electric poles are planted and they remain without electrification for months together. The Department gives the reason that materials are not available and in this way execution of the works are dragged on. Due to very low voltage in rural areas the electric lights are very dim.

There are delays in the commissioning of projects and there is failure to achieve targets also. They would say that this is delay in land acquisition, inadequate site investigation and so on. All these things may be excuses for such delay. A detailed project report should be collected before getting the project into operation. That would save the delay.

Some thermal power stations are not functioning properly because most of them have become outdated. So, they have to be renovated and modernised for better and regular functioning.

Another point is, mini hydro electric projects in large numbers should be established wherever there is a possibility for establishment of mini hydro electric projects for which the investment is not high. A scheme has to be formulated for the establishment of mini hydro electric projects. Electricity is a vital sector. So it is absolutely necessary that more and more finance is allotted to this sector. Due to financial constraints, several schemes are not being implemented.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude. Today being Friday, most of the Members want to speak now. We have to help others also.

SHRI N. DENNIS : More and more funds are to be allotted for implementing all these schemes because electricity is an important sector. Tamil Nadu is a deficit State as far as electricity is concerned. There are frequent power cuts and power restrictions. Industrial and

[Shri N. Dinis]

agricultural developments are greatly affected because of power cuts. Though there is expansion of pums sets, they cannot be put into operation during agricultural seasons. The agriculture and industry are greatly affected due to electricity cut. There is another point which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is in Tamil Nadu, coal supply is not of good variety. It has been represented before the Centre and also before the concerned Department that coal supplied is not of good variety. A request has been made to the Government that permission should be given for import of good variety of coal from foreign countries. If it is not against the policy of the Government, permission has to be given for import of coal.

I would like to mention one or two points. The atomic power plant at Kudangulam in Tirunelveli district is one project for which proposal has been sent. Site engineers have approved it. A high-level committee also has found the feasibility of the scheme. So, expeditious step be taken for the speedy implementation of this scheme.

There is a proposal for the establishment of thermal plant in Rajakka Mangalam in Kanya Kumari district. Survey has been conducted; investigation has been carried out. Government land is also available. Infrastructure facilities are there. It is classified as a backward district. I request that expeditious steps be taken for the speedy implementations of this project also. Similarly, a project report is prepared for the implementation of the Paraliar hydro electric project. It is a mini hydro electric project. That could be implemented with nominal cost. This scheme may also be implemented expeditiously.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Energy.

SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN (Sivakasi): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to take part in the discussion on the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Energy, on

behalf of my party, All India Anna DMK.

Energy is one of the most important inputs for the development of our country and it holds the key to modern life. Without power it is not possible to increase our production either in industry or agriculture. Now-a-days, the per capita consumption of power is an index for the development of a country. In Canada, the per capita consumption of power is 14,000 units; in Sweden it is 11,500. In USA, the per capita consumption is 10,500 units. But in India it is only 175 units. The Government of India have taken many steps to find oil. With the continuous progress of exploration and production, the Government of India have produced 11.8 million tonnes of oil in 1979-80. In 1983-84, the Government of India was able to produce 25.6 million tonnes of oil. In 1947, the total power generation capacity in our country was 1,362 MW. But in 1985, the generating capacity installed in our country is 46,900 MW. Out of this 46,900 MW, thermal power station was installed with a capacity of 29,936 MW, hydel projects 15,634 MW and the capacity of nuclear project was, 1,330 MW. These figures show that the Government of India is showing more interest in establishing thermal stations instead of hydro-electric plants. In India, so far we have not been able to utilise 10% of the hydro-electric potentialities.

There was a proposal to set up a hydro-electric project with a capacity of 5,000 MW on the river Sohansari. There was a proposal to establish 20,000 MW power station on the river Dihang. These two rivers are situated in the upper reaches of Brahmaputra.

While we are establishing these hydro-electric projects. We are getting not only power but also water which we can use for irrigation purposes. But in thermal power installation, the cost of power is very high. In Tamilnadu, most of the power units are thermal power units. The coal is coming from North India. The cost of coal is less than the cost of transportation. For example, one tonne of coal is Rs. 300. The transportation comes to Rs. 320/-. The total cost of coal comes to Rs.

620/-. Not only that. The coal which is coming from North India contains more ash. They are also sending stones along with coal. So it is unfortunate that the Tamilnadu State Electricity Board is paying transport cost even for stones besides paying the actual cost for coal. This is also one of the reasons for loss of electricity Board in Tamilnadu.

So far as conversation of Energy is concerned, it is a very important matter on which the Government of India estimated Rs. 500 crores for modernisation and renovation of existing units. But so far I think only Rs. 100 crores are allotted. This is very meagre. The hon. Minister should take note to allot more funds to existing units for renovation and modernisation to intensify production in the existing units.

In India, to produce one tonne of steel, we are spending 9.3 million kilo calories. But it is more than double the size in Japan. We have to apply modern technologies which are available in the world to intensify the use of power.

So far as Tamilnadu is concerned, it has attained 99.8% rural electrification. The national average is only 64.5%. So far as energisation of pump-sets is concerned, throughout India we have energisation of only 59 lakhs of pumsets. In Tamil Nadu we were able to energise nearly 10,33,000 pump sets and four lakhs applications are pending for energisation. But due to paucity of power the State Electricity Board is not able to give them power. So the Minister should take note of it.

There are nine schemes which have been forwarded by the Government of Tamil Nadu to the Centre and they are pending with Union Government for clearance. Ho kenekal is one of them. I request the Minister to clear these schemes very early.

Nowadays the workshops owned by the State Electricity Boards are also producing materials for distribution and transmission of power. These materials are levied central excise duty. These products should be exempted from central excise duty. Most of the State Electricity Boards in our country are running on losses due to intensification

of rural electrification and energisation of pump sets. I request the Minister to exempt these Electricity Boards from income tax just like the public sector undertakings who are given this exemption. I am sure then the State Electricity Boards which are now running on losses will become profitable and viable. In that case they will be able to get assistance from the World Bank and other international financing institutions. Neither the State Government nor the Central Government are able to invest the necessary amount. So in order to get assistance from World Bank and other financial institutions, these Electricity Boards should be exempt from income tax.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Before calling the next member speaker, I would request the members to take only 5 or 6 minutes because we are going to take up the Private Members' business at 3.30. Before that some members want to speak. Therefore, I request you to be very brief and take only 5 or 6 minutes.

Shri Virldhi Chander Jain.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRLDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy. First, I would like to comment on our transmission and distribution losses. The hon. Minister has said that the transmission and distribution losses are more in Rajasthan. This is mainly because Rajasthan is a vast stretch of predominantly desert land. I want that strict measures must be taken in cases of power theft. I highly appreciate the Minister's proposal of making the theft of power a cognizable offence, but I want that it should be made a non-bailable offence as well. The imprisonment for this offence should also be for a minimum period of five years. This would alone control the corrupt industrialists and the agriculturalists who indulge in such activities, because such people are major hurdles in development.

Now I would like to speak about the better performance of the thermal power

[Shri Virdhi Chander Jain]

units. You have rightly mentioned that the Kota Thermal Plant in Rajasthan has achieved a record 77.49 per cent of power load factor. Other thermal power projects can also progress similarly. You have achieved some degree of success as well. Efforts should be made to achieve 47.9 per cent to 50.8 per cent of Plant Load Factor. Efforts can be made even to achieve upto 60 per cent of Plant Load Factor. If we are successful, then there would be plenty of surplus power, which would prove beneficial to our region.

As time is very short, I would now speak about my area only. As regards the REC Scheme, I would like to say that 6,30,000 villages were identified and on that basis 3,87,677 villages have already been electrified. Although 55 per cent of electrification work is over, yet in our district of Jaisalmer only 5 per cent of the total area has been electrified. The problem is that the Central Government does not accept any REC Scheme sent by the Government of Rajasthan. The area of this State is extensive and population sparse. The Rajasthan Canal has reached there and the region is developing. The Canal has reached the areas of Mohangarh and Nachma, which have a population of bare five thousand. But REC Schemes are not sanctioned for such areas and hence electrification is not done. But where the canal has reached and where population has also increased, even such areas have not been electrified. So, my request to you is that work must be done in this direction and all the REC Schemes for the Jaisalmer district should be sanctioned. When the country is progressing and in the Seventh Five Year Plan you have decided to electrify all the villages, then Jaisalmer and Barmer should not lag behind. Therefore, all the REC Schemes of Jaisalmer should be sanctioned. Shiva Scheme of Barmer has not yet been sanctioned. The same should be sanctioned so that these districts could also make progress in the matter of electrification.

Now I would like to speak about the proposed National Grid. Efforts are being made to set up such a grid system. The proposed National Grid ought to be

set up and you have consulted the States in this matter. By the establishment of this grid system, the States with deficit as well as surplus power would both benefit and develop equally. Our country is one entity. When we wish to integrate our nation, a national grid system becomes essential. Therefore, adequate efforts must be made to set up a National Grid of power.

Six crore tonnes of lignite deposits have been found in Kapurdi in Barmer. I would like to be enlightened about its quality. It is being looked after by the Mineral Exploration Corporation, the Planning Commission and the Mineral Department of Rajasthan. The progress of the work is very slow. I would like its pace to be accelerated. After accelerating its pace, drilling could be done to achieve the results. A project report should be prepared early. This work has been going on for the last three and a half years. The work is progressing very slowly. The pace of the work should be accelerated and it should be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan so that the power crisis being faced by us could be solved.

We do not have resources for Pilana Lignite Plant. Discussion is going on with West Germany. You kindly help us with whatever aid is available. I would like to request you to include Pilana Lignite Plant in the Seventh Five Year Plan. Ramgarh has been included in Seventh Five Year Plan. You have decided to set up a gas-based plant at Ramgarh. I would like to tell you that very huge deposits of lime have been found at Ramgarh. There are not such huge deposits of lime anywhere else in the country. If Ramgarh is electrified, lime could be used in a very good manner. Its purity is 99 per cent and it is in a very good quantity. Unless gas is made available at concessional rate and talks are held with the Department of Petroleum for this purpose, gas-based plant could not come into existence. I would also like to request you that steps should be taken in this regard.

15.00 hrs.

I would also like to submit that our

State is supplied power from Satpura. Our full share from Satpura must be ensured. What they do is that we are supplied power when it is not required and when it is required, they do not supply us any power. Power to Jodupur city is supplied from Satpura, but its supply is very erratic. It has been stated that during year 1985-86, there was shortage of 8.3 per cent. You should ask the Government of Madhya Pradesh and we should be provided with the relief.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : You get their dues paid.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : There is no objection in making the payment. Our State Government is prepared to make the payment and we would extend our help in this regard.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Rs. 40 crores has to be paid.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : You should convene a meeting of both the Chief Ministers and take a decision.

I would also like to submit that wind and Sunlight is available in plenty in our desert area, but whatever efforts have been made in the desert area in this regard are negligible. Wind mills should be set up there. With the help of wind mills, irrigation facilities and drinking water facilities could be provided in the villages. You should take steps for setting up wind mills. In addition, efforts should be made to tap solar energy. No concrete steps have been taken in this direction in the desert areas. Such steps have been taken in Gujarat and in Kutch area, but no steps have been taken in our State. The efforts made so far to tap solar energy are negligible-

I would like to say one more thing. There is great demand for improved *chulhas* in our State. There was a proposal to provide 18 lakh *chulhas* by 31st March, 1986. There is great demand for such *chulhas* especially in our State. The people in the desert areas do not want to fell trees and they want to

preserve the forests. You should, therefore, help us with regard to improved *chulhas*. Due to abundant availability of dung, Bio-Gas Plants are proving to be very successful. The manure which is formed is also of good quality. You should, therefore, set up maximum number of biogas plants.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy.

[English]

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram) : Sir, in the modern world, energy is the vital requirement for all developments. India has achieved good progress in using different sources of energy like coal, water etc. for meeting its growing needs of energy. Coal production has no doubt gone up, but there is one problem in it. Coal is not inexhaustible and after, say, 50 years or so, it may not be there if we go on mining it at the present rate. So, it is quite natural that we turn to other sources of energy. I am happy that the Government is now paying greater attention to exploiting other sources of energy which are called non-conventional energy sources like solar energy, wind energy etc.

Power is the most important energy that plays the pivotal role in the development of the country. The Government has made huge investments in the power sector. Still we are short of power. As the pace of industrialisation increases, the power requirement also goes up. The existing power units are not able to meet the requirements. The major problem in this sector is that most of the power units are working at half the installed capacity. Then, there is the problem of transmission loss. In some States transmission loss is as high as 20%. I am happy that the Hon. Minister has taken a series of measures in this regard and I find that there is visible improvement in both capacity utilisation as well as reduction in transmission loss.

15.03 hrs.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN
[in the Chair]

Sir, hydro- electric power occupies a

[Shri K Mohandas]

very important place in the scheme of power generation in the country. I am told that we are not using more than 10 or 11 percent of our water resources of our country. If proper investment is made, we will be able to produce enough electricity through hydro-power generation. This country is blessed with a large number of big rivers whose water can be utilised for generating power. But, we have not been able to exploit this valuable resource due to the lack of perspective plan. The result is that there is under-utilisation of the resources. In this context I would like to say that many projects sent by different States are pending clearance by the Centre. I understand that many proposals of my State of Kerala are awaiting Central clearance. The silent valley hydro-electric project was given up in deference to the wishes of the late Smt. Indira Gandhi. But Kerala was assured that an alternate project would be sanctioned. Accordingly, Kerala had sent a proposal for the alternate project. But I am told the Centre has rejected that too.

Sir, there is a mistaken belief that Kerala is surplus in electricity. This is a pure myth. As a matter of fact if there is no further expansion of the power capacity in Kerala in the immediate future, Kerala is going to face a serious shortage of power. As industrial development picks up momentum, the power shortage will become more and more acute. Therefore, expansion of power capacity in Kerala has got to be raised.

In this context I would draw the attention of the Minister to an important aspect of the power problem in Kerala. Kerala has at present only hydropower and it has to entirely depend on monsoon for its reservoir to have adequate quantity of water. About two years ago, Kerala faced an unprecedented power shortage due to failure of monsoon. This has made it amply clear that we cannot entirely depend on hydropower any longer. Therefore, the Government of Kerala made a request that an atomic power plant should be set up in Kerala to meet its energy requirements in the years to come. On this occasion I want to repeat that demand

and request the hon. Minister to take a quick decision to set up an atomic power plant in Kerala. Kerala is perhaps the only State where there is no power project in the Central sector. Centre's investment in the power sector is practically nil. Therefore, it is all the more necessary that Kerala should be given a little more consideration in this respect. I hope the hon. Minister will favourably consider the case of Kerala and take all necessary steps to meet its growing power requirements. With these words, I conclude and support the Demands.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Energy. We find that for giving alternate source of energy like wind, solar, etc. only selection of remote villages is done, I would like to suggest that even villages which have got electric power supply should be given alternate supply of this non-conventional energy sources. Even in developed countries like Cyprus I have seen that every house has got a solar water heater. In that country every seventh man has a car. They can heat the water for domestic use with the help of geyser and other electric material but they are trying to conserve power. They are trying to save power. In our country we have got lot of sunlight. We should take advantage of it. In the Annual Report it is mentioned that with 5 lakh gohar gas plants installed in the country we are able to save cow-dung or forest wood to the tune of Rs. 100 crores per year. So, if we can establish one crore gohar gas plants throughout the country the saving of forest wood (or cow-dung) will be to the tune of Rs. 2,000 crores. Sir, cow-dung is an important manure and the gohar gas plant has got one advantage that cow-dung coming out of it, after the process, is rich by 1% more of nitrogen. That means, we can have a saving of Rs. 50 crores on nitrogenous fertiliser produced in this country. Sir, a saving of Rs. 2000 crores in the use of cow-dung means a substantial saving and creation of substantial wealth in the country. Earlier, the hon. Minister was in charge of petroleum and fertilisers also. Sir, we have been informed that we have to give subsidy on nitrogenous fertilisers. By 1990, the amount given by way of subsidy will be

to the tune of Rs. 7000 crores. Why not we plan now itself by allocating more money to this alternate source of Energy Department? The Government should give more subsidy to the gobar gas plant so that we can save the national wealth, save forest wealth and save cow-dung. By this we can reduce the indirect subsidy and effect reduction on fertiliser price. I would like to request the hon. Minister kindly to tell the Government of Maharashtra not to stop the subsidy on gobar gas plant. On the contrary, the subsidy should be increased and it should continue.

Then, Sir, we have to look at coal, not as a combustion material but as a raw material for petro-chemicals and chemical industry. Whether it is coal, petroleum or gas, it can be utilised as raw material for industries. So far as the generation of power is concerned, we must try to give more emphasis to atomic energy and to hydel energy and also non-conventional energy. Atomic energy plants unfortunately,—some plants like the one at Kota—are not functioning properly. But at the same time we are glad that 95% to 97% we will be using our indigenous material in the construction of our new atomic power plants that will be coming up in places like Kalpakkam and other places in the country. All the potential of power generation through the atomic energy is somewhat huge. Even the hydel energy has not been tapped to the sufficient extent. If we can use and harness the fast flowing rivers of Himalayas—for example the River Rangi and Tista coming from Sikkim—and establish hydel power generation station, a lot of energy can be generated and the energy can be supplied to West Bengal, Bihar, Assam and even to Bangladesh.

Sir, we have got Sun light in abundance and also wind energy in our country. If we reduce the cost of solar pump through reduction in cost of silicon crystals/photovoltaic cells then thousands and lakhs of agricultural pumps can be converted from electric motors to photovoltaic cells electric motors. We are glad that our industry in Mettur is able to produce silicon crystals of high purity and the purity percentage is also increasing. Let us hope that in the near future,

we will be able to reduce the cost of photovoltaic cells pumps so that the pumps that can be installed in the farms of the farmers will be economical and cheaper in the long run as compared to the electric pumps which are presently working erratically.

For avoiding transmission losses, we should vigorously follow the idea of establishing powers plants at situ and have a national grid system. This national grid system has to be established fast on the one side, and on the other side, various State Electricity Boards should be told to recover their dues properly from the farmers and industrialists. The loss in the power supply to the industries is more than twenty per cent and there is a lot of leakage in the matter of power supply to the industries. This is done with the connivance of the Electricity Department people. This should be put an end to. They make adjustment in electricity meters and on account of that, we are not able to get full return for any of the thermal power plants. This should be put an end to with an iron hand. There should be a way to tally how much electricity is produced, how much is consumed & how much we are able to earn from that. From such sort of statistics, we can easily find out how much leakage is there for example in a place like Ghaziabad and other areas. If we are able to plug these loopholes, certainly all the power plants and State Electricity Board would run on profits, or at least the losses would be eliminated or reduced. With these words I again emphasize on alternative sources of energy and request that we must look at coal and petroleum products as raw material and not energy material

I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy. Energy is a highly technical subject and I shall not go through the data and details of the technical side of it, but being a representative of the people, I would definitely draw the attention of the House and the hon. Minister towards the achievements, problems as also give my suggestions.

[Dr. Prabhat Kumar Mishra]

Energy is essential for life and it is most essential for the survival of the nation. I must congratulate the most energetic Minister of Energy for achieving hundred per cent power production in my State, particularly Korba and I am thankful for the establishment of the South Eastern Coal Field at Bilaspur.

Energy, as I said, is most important and, therefore, should be made a Central subject. As you know, the M.P. State Electricity Board is not in a position to utilize the power produced by NTPC in Korba. Consequently, NTPC is asked to cut down its power production, because the State Electricity Board is not in a position to transfer it to the farmers. Bilaspur district has been electrified only to the extent of forty two per cent, though NTPC and MPEB are situated there. I, therefore, suggest that it should be a Central subject and it should be monitored from the Centre also.

I would strongly urge upon the Minister that the work at the hydel electricity plants at Bongo and Burjee be provided with more finance so that they are expedited and that should be monitored regularly. Further, some technical institution should also be opened simultaneously with the installation of the plant so that the trained hands are available at local level. Latest technology should be developed there to store extra electricity produced by the plants.

Solar energy needs to be encouraged for village electrification, for street light and other purposes. Arrangements for storage also through battery need to be made.

Then, Sir, corruption is the main reason for our not being able to achieve our goal. I have been informed that the supply orders for huge pipes have been given to the same contractor who had been prosecuted by police in Korba in 1983 in the cement case. He is still not supplying the pipes of requisite quality to the Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station.

There are other factors also which

are causing losses to the public sector. Coal smuggling is the main problem in the public sector. The plants are not supplied adequate quantity of coal. The quality of the coal is also poor. The coal which is supposed to be supplied to the plant is being smuggled, and sold. They fulfil the quota required by the plant, they mix ash, etc. in this coal. All these factors affect the output of the plant.

Employment to the local persons only upto the scale of Rs. 800 p.m. is a very old proposal. I request that this proposal should be revised and the amount also may be raised. While discussing the general budget, I had already suggested that for the Director (Personnel) or any similar post, the officer must be selected from the State cadre so as to enable him to understand the problems of local unemployment, which is a chronic phenomenon everywhere.

I would also like to mention that the coal fields should be very strictly guarded against the mafia gangs who have been a deep-rooted problem in all the coal mines. I can say without hesitation that unless there is some negligence on the part of the authorities, it is not possible for them to operate in the mines so easily.

The coal-based fertilizer plant at Korba should be started now because it is a long-pending commitment by the Government. People are anxiously waiting for the plant to start functioning. A big amount of money is still being used for the maintenance of machines, etc. Out of the total money allotted for coal slash to the State Government, at least 50 per cent should be used for the development of the coal-mining area, particularly for the development of roads and other things. This should also be monitored by the Central Government as well.

By quoting one example, I would like to draw your attention to the problem of corruption in the transportation of coal. Last year, Rs. 70 lakhs was spent for the transport of coal in Korba but the minimum required quantity of coal was not loaded in the trucks. The argument given by the authorities was that the weighing

machine was not in order. But to my astonishment, while five contractors were not given the full payment, the sixth one was given the full payment in spite of the fact that he also used the same weighing machine.

The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board has reported that 25 per cent of the coal supplies is burnt one, for which W.C.L. has given a big amount of compensation to the M.P.E.B. I would like to know where the supplies of coal, got with that money, have gone.

Simultaneously, I shall stress on the need for easy availability of coal to the local consumers and small industries. Definitely, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister regarding the air and water pollution caused by the MPEB, Korba. The pollution level has reached its saturation point in Korba.

Sir, the management must take the help of the labour unions to smoothen the work of the plant. But they should not be given such a long rope so as to interfere in the administrative work.

Lastly, I would like to give certain suggestions. Korba has got the biggest coal field and it also has got good quality of coal. But they generally dig five metres deep and go a long way superficially. If they go deep, upto 15 metres, they will definitely get good quality of coal.

I would like to submit that compensation must be given to the land owners either by employment or by giving some assistance or facilities to set up small industries, so that they can have a permanent source of livelihood.

Lastly, I shall definitely congratulate the hon. Minister for promoting the non-conventional method of energy resources. But I request that more and more facilities should be given to attract people for adopting bio and *gobar* gas plants. This help can be provided in the shape of more subsidy, etc.

I support the demands for Energy and thank the Chairman for having given me

a chance to speak.

[Translation]

*SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in support of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy for 1986-87, I wish to say a few words.

In 1985-86 we generated 170 billion units of electricity through hydro-electric projects and thermal power stations. Out of this, 60 billion units of power were produced through hydel stations. I need not say that generation of power in hydel stations depends upon the availability of water in reservoirs. The remaining 110 billion units were generated in thermal stations. This is just 50% of installed capacity in thermal stations.

I would like to refer here to another important problem. Out of 170 billion units generated, 21% is lost in transmission and distribution. This comes to about 35.70 billion units. If you add 110 billion units lost in 50% under-utilisation of the installed capacity with 35.70 billion units lost in transmission and distribution, then the total loss comes to about 145.70 billion units. When there is acute power crisis throughout the country, we cannot afford to lose so much of electric power. We should endeavour to utilise at least 80% of the installed capacity. We should try to minimise the transmission and distribution loss of 21%. Then only we will be able to tide over the power crisis in the country.

I would now refer in particular to the acute shortage of electricity in Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu proposes to invest Rs. 2000 crores on power projects. Even after the implementation of all power projects envisaged in the 7th Five Year Plan, the unfulfilled gap between production and demand in Tamil Nadu would be about 3299 million units. In 1994-95 this will go up to 10153 million units. The Government of India should come to the rescue of Tamil Nadu as the Government of Tamil Nadu does not have enough resources to cover

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri C.K. Kuppuswamy]

this unfilled gap between generation and demand.

Even after the completion of Six Five-Year Plans 2,03,000 villages have not got electricity. In other words 35% of the villages in the country have not got electricity so far. Similarly 50% of the pumpsets in the country have not been energised. In these circumstances it becomes very necessary to eliminate the transmission and distribution loss of 35.70 billion units of electricity.

I demand that the Third Main Cut in Neiveli Lignite Organisation and Power Station should be sanctioned so that Tamil Nadu gets some relief from recurring power crisis. It is proposed in the Seventh Five Year Plan to set up atomic plants to generate 10000 MW by 2000. I demand that the expansion scheme of Kalpakkam Atomic Plant should be sanctioned. Another atomic plant should be sanctioned in Tamil Nadu. Then only the power requirements of Tamil Nadu can be met.

Sir, our Minister of Energy is literally a person of abundant energy and also a repository of talent and amiability. I want that he should use his good offices in getting the approval from Karnataka for the Hugenekal Hydel Power Project at the earliest. He should also sanction adequate funds for the implementation of this inter-state project. This project when completed will supply electricity to 10000 pumpsets in my Constituency of Tiruppur and neighbouring Coimbatore, where the farmers are greatly handicapped in their agricultural activities.

With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI MOTILAL SINGH (Sidhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir. Energy is an essential investment for qualitative improvement of life and financial growth. Where technology is available and financial resources are also available, we should encourage speedy utilisation and development of all renewable sources.

A proposal was sent to the Central

Government by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in 1981 for setting up Bandav Thermal Power Station and in 1984, the Planning Commission has agreed in principle to supply coal to this Power Station, but this proposal has not been agreed to by the Standing Linkage Committee of the Coal Department so far.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now it is 3.30 and we have to start Private Member's Business. So, you kindly resume your seat and you can continue next time.

15.30 hrs,

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sixteenth Report

[English]

SHRI R.P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Sixteenth Report of the Committee of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 2nd April, 1986."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Sixteenth Report of the Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 2nd April, 1986."

The motion was adopted

GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORIES (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Substitution of new section for section 44)

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 2 dated 4-4-1986.