

The motion was adopted.

Bill. The question is:

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

The motion was adopted.

"That Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill".

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

"The Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I beg to move:

The motion was adopted.

"That the bill be passed."

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

" That the Bill be passed."

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I beg to move:

The motion was adopted.

"That the bill be passed."

16.18 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1988-89—
CONTD

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

Ministry of Energy

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is :

[English]

That the Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Act, 1976, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 19—21 relating to the Ministry of Energy for which six hours have been allotted.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. The question is:

Hon. Members present in the House whose out motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

"The Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account

and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1989, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 19, 20, 21 relating to the Ministry of Energy."

Demands for Grants, 1988-89 In respect of the Ministry of Energy submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account voted by the House on 18th March, 1988		Amount of Demand for Grant Submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
19.	Department of Coal	22,29,00,000	255,67,00,000	116,71,00,000	1278,33,00,000
20.	Department of Power	56,41,00,000	243,49,00,000	282,04,00,000	1217,45,00,000
21.	Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	16,11,00,000	42,00,000	86,87,00,000	2,08,00,000

MR CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Thomas.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: (Mavelikara): The most important thing in the development of the nation is to consolidate all resources for mobilising energy. The average per capita use of energy by an Indian citizen is far below the international average.

While a citizen in European countries consumes about 8000 units of electricity, in USSR, he uses 6000 units, in America, it is 7000 units, in Japan, he consumes 7000 an odd units, our per head consumption seems to be 167 units or so. This shows that the use

of energy be 167 units or so. This shows that the use of energy by an average Indian citizen is far below the international level. To what extent, energy is available, by and large, to a common man is the criterion for development.

India, being a developing nation, must give a high priority to the generation of energy by making available suitable resources.

I am happy to point out that in the Central sector, the National Thermal Power Corporation has created an impact in the field of generation of energy. I am told that they have exceeded their planned target. Also, it is working as a very viable unit and it

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is in a position to compete with the energy producing agencies in the modern developed nations. However, the condition of our State Electricity Boards of our country is very very bad. I am told that the accrued losses of energy of all the State Electricity Boards would amount to Rs.1500 crores, whereas the National Thermal Power Corporation has shown a good profit and has paid dividend and are progressing well on these lines. It is a very good situation as far as the thermal energy is concerned.

I am told that based on the latest technology, there is possibility of generating cheaper electricity by interaction of the technology of thermal power generation and hydel power generation. However, I find that for that there is no provision in your proposals. We have not done any experiment on that basis. I am told that if the technology for generating hydel as well as thermal power are joined together, the cost of production can be much less. The hydel energy can be produced at a cheaper cost of production, because the raw material is readily available, and that is water. With the use of water, if you produce energy, it is cheaper. The cost will be much more in the case of coal or nuclear projects. Therefore, if the technology of generating hydel electricity and thermal electricity can be mixed together, the electricity can be produced much cheaper than the present rate.

In this context, I would bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that Kerala is a place where there is plenty of water. I am told that from Kerala a lot of water flows to the Arabian Sea, because it is not properly utilised. The possibility of utilizing this water for generation of electricity must be considered seriously.

The earlier Plans were not thought of or prepared keeping an eye on the future and the people wanted existence for the time being; hand to mouth existence was the philosophy of the planners of energy generation hitherto and that is why we are suffering now. A clear example of that is Kerala. There is a raw material available for hydel

projects. The water could have been better utilized, but it has not been done. For the last ten years, there has not been put up even a single unit in Kerala by the State Electricity Board for whatever reasons. The last unit for generation of electricity was put up in Kerala in 1979. If from 1979 to 1988 not a single unit for generation of electricity is planned or commissioned in Kerala, what would be the future? I am only pointing out and giving an example of Kerala to show how our planners and bureaucrats and our Government failed in thinking on right lines to take care of the future. They thought that if they do something, they can get applause or they can get votes or things like that. They may have fallen to that prey and as a result of that the country is facing problems now. There is no targeted plan for the production of energy. I would like to say that if the raw materials like water or the thermal power is given then the electricity can be produced at a lesser cost. My complaint is, why have you left it over to the State Electricity Board? It ought to have been a Central sector scheme. Today morning I heard the Hon. Minister's reply during the Question-Hour in response to a query from an M.P. from the West Bengal. The Minister was telling to the M.P. that if the West Bengal Government is prepared to take the project as the Central project and give Rs.400 crores then with this Rs.400 crores plus the Central money, the energy can be produced and in this way the requirements of the State can be fulfilled. I think this is a very good scheme.

Now, what is happening? The State Electricity Board has incurred Rs.1500 crores loss. In the Central sector no doubt achievements are there but there is no correlation in monitoring. I am told that 80 per cent of the electricity is generated by the State Electricity Board. Most of the State Electricity Boards have become white elephants. They plan in line or in accordance with the situations which were in existence some 20 or 25 years back. Therefore, I would suggest that this should be taken up in a national perspective and all the available resources should be utilised for the purposes of energy generation. I would like to submit that priority should be given to it and

there is no doubt that you are doing something in that direction. We are very happy that whenever you get time in the House, you have always tried to appraise the House with your points of view. And, of course, we have supported your view point. But I am not offe with you when you said about the privatisation.

Today during the Question-Hour you talked about the privatisation of the sector. But you have assured us that the privatisation or the profit making by the private individuals will not be permitted. If that is so, well and good but for that parameters will have to be decided. If the private people are permitted to exploit the natural resources and the national wealth for their private gains, it is natural that everything will succumb to them. Therefore, the efforts should be made in such a manner that they should be used for the development of the nation. Of course, it is welcomed by all. Therefore, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister as to what are the parameters and the extent to which you propose the involvement of the private individuals in the energy generation. Energy generation is a national subject, and it cannot be given to the private sector unless it is for a captive purpose.

The factories which are being run by the private individuals depend for their energy requirements on the electricity generated with the help of money collected by way of tax and for this they are paying less than that of the cost of production. As a step towards the industrial development, the Government has taken the responsibility to give power and electricity. So, naturally when you are giving them power, they make profits at the cost of national wealth. This has to be streamlined and planned in such a way that the profits earned by exploiting the nation's wealth and means should be channelised for the welfare of the society. If we look at it from that angle, we find that common man is getting only 167 units of electricity. There are very many villages where there is no electricity and they still depend for it on the old methods. The villages in Bihar or in Orissa or for that matter the villages in the backward

States of the country are not having electricity. There should be an earnest effort to see that the electricity is supplied in all the rural areas. I am proud to say that even with the limited resources, in Kerala we have a programme to electrify all the villages there. I am sure that we can do it. But now, the position is that there is no sufficient amount of electricity which can cater the needs of the people.

Industrial development in Kerala is really in great difficulty, because of non-availability of power. The State of Kerala is becoming more and more dependent on a salary-based economic structure. From the structure of the economy as such in the State, we find that most of the people in Kerala go in for a salaried job as stenographers, clerks, teachers or nurses either in the State itself, or here in Delhi or even elsewhere and outside the country too. The point that I am trying to stress is that industrial culture could not be built up in the State. May be to some extent the aptitude of the people to go in for salaried jobs has developed certain culture which is not conducive to industrial development. Therefore, industrial development 'culture' can now be inculcated only if power is available. When the State is now looking towards the development of industries, we find that there is no energy. Kerala which was one of the power-surplus States is now facing deficiency in power and there is a power cut to the extent of 40 per cent in Kerala. Even last week, when I went home, I found that there was a power cut continuously for three hours from 8.00 AM TO 11.00 AM.

Sir, this problem can only be overcome if the Central Government interferes immediately. Therefore, I would like to suggest that there should be a long term policy, a medium term policy and a short term policy on the part of the Central Government to produce and distribute power. We all know that long term plans and projects take time. If we take up the construction of a hydel project to generate electricity, naturally it will take a minimum of five years. Apart from the money and other resources, the construc-

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tion and then the generation, will take at least five years and if we aim at producing energy only in this way, development will have to be stopped for five years.

Therefore, in this context I would like to emphasise one important point. I would suggest that from the readily-available resources, we should try to extract the maximum that we can. Maximum electricity should be produced and distributed wherever it is needed. Today from the discussions on textiles, I noted that 55 per cent of the installed capacity is not being used. How many factories have been closed and why are they closed? If it is due to the lack of energy, if this under-utilisation of the installed capacity is because energy could not be supplied by us, whether it be Central or State Government, the fault lies with us. Therefore, it should be planned to see that the available resources and the production apparatus should be utilised to the maximum extent to increase production in this country. And this is possible only if we are in a position to make energy available at every point, at any cost, in any manner. In this context, I would like to request the hon. Minister not to hesitate to give priority to those States which are deficient in electricity. And for this purpose, you may even leave aside the schemes and policies that you may be following earlier. I am saying this with a specific purpose. Ramagundam and Maharashtra are producing electricity under the central sector. Kalpakkam and Neyveli are also generating electricity under the central sector. But unfortunately, the share given to Kerala is not sufficient. Last year, when this matter was discussed, the hon. Minister said that the transmission losses would be more if the electricity had to be given over long distances. It would be to the extent of even 20 to 30 per cent and because of this reason, the cost could not be afforded by the State and that was why power could not be given to Kerala. Now, my submission is that the production apparatus should be kept alive and running and the maximum production should be extracted from the available resources. You should see that in whatever manner available, electricity should be sup-

plied to cater to the needs of each area. You can take it up as a short term programme. Medium term programmes and planning must also be there to generate electricity in whatever manner possible.

I would like to mention one specific point about my constituency. In Kayamkulam in Kerala, there is a proposal from the State Government and it is pending with the Central Government. This proposal is to start a thermal plant. Of course it creates a lot of problems. I know the difficulty for making coal available to the far off places in South. But if you could make coal available in Tamil Nadu, then it will not be much of a problem to make the same available to Kayamkulam, Kerala. Of course it is difficult for the State Government to take up the entire project. If you want to develop a place in the West Coast for the production of energy, then naturally, you will have to develop the Port also. For the development of a Port, you need another Rs. 100 crores. That can only be provided by the Central Government. The State Government cannot directly involve themselves in the development of a Port, because of shortage of money. You might recall the Government of Kerala had faced difficulty for paying salaries to their own employees because of shortage of fund.

My submission is that in view of all these difficulties, the development work can come to a standstill. To avoid all these difficulties you give priority to all these matters. You give necessary sanctions. Now when a question was asked, the hon. Minister replied, of course the Central Electricity Authority has cleared the scheme, but you get the permission from the Environment Ministry. Later on you get the financial sanction and the technical sanction. So necessarily four or five such sanctions are necessary. The State Government is trying to get all these sanctions. They are moving the State Electricity Board. It will take at least 3 or 4 years to get the sanctions alone. So it will take another five years for starting or commissioning a project. So uptill that time no electricity will be produced.

Therefore, my submission is that in-

stead of all these barriers, the Centre should take it up. You suggested in the morning that whatever resources are available with the State Government, for the purpose of generating power, that should be put together and utilised for the purpose of generating energy. In this connection, the technologies which have come up or the new methods which have come up, they will have to be taken into consideration. I hope Satheji has got the experience as a public worker. He knows the problems of the people. This is the foremost and important problem of the country and everything depends mainly on the priorities. For this we will have to move forward. Recently the NRIs-the non-Resident Indians - have offered help, if we permit them for generating energy in our country. I do not know whether any serious discussion has been held regarding this matter in our country. Recently I made a visit to the Gulf countries, where many Indians are working. They were telling me that they are prepared to involve themselves for the development of our country. But they say that no serious discussion at Government level had taken place. In fact they were complaining. When I was going by a train, a man came and immediately handed over a paper regarding a project to me. He said that somewhere in a Gulf country, they are producing energy, from the tidal waves - sea water, why can't we try this method in India. I said, you approach the State Government. I do not know whether the State Government have forwarded this issue or not. There are certain proposals like that, where they can generate energy. In this connection, as far as possible more and more NRIs should be given opportunities for involving themselves in the field of energy. Our people who are working abroad, they have money and they are ready to contribute for the development of this country. I may inform you that if the people who have got the responsibility approach them, not through the Press statements or something like that, in a haphazard manner but seriously they are ready to contribute. So I would suggest that as far as possible, you attract the NRIs for the purpose of generating electricity. This you can consider and within the shortest possible time you can

easily raise the funds. I have also said that decentralisation has helped very much in developed countries and developing countries in generating electricity.

THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS(SHRI VASANT SATHE): That also would be in private sector - NRI.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: No. But you can make it. Ours is a mixed economy. Don't give a chance for exploitation. That is the only question. You can see to it. To that extent I am agreeable. You involve them with proper safeguards and not by leaving the things at their disposal for the purpose of exploitation. I oppose only that. The other thing I am not against, especially in this field which is of paramount importance.

About the decentralization which I mentioned, of course certain efforts have been made for generating energy in the non-conventional area. Certain things have shown results also, especially in Gujarat. There, I would suggest to you to involve the cooperative movement. You know the Israeli story - of making Israel this much powerful monetarily, because the maximum per capita income is in Israel. With their political policy we cannot agree; but how did they achieve their development? They involved Moshave Kibbutz. These Moshave and Kibbutz which they organized there, are self-sufficient units. I had occasion to visit certain places, and to see how they make energy. From the weeds they generate energy and run the city. They collect weeds, they send them through a conveyor belt, they make steam out of it and they convert it into energy. They say: 'This is our Moshave'. In the whole of Kibbutz they say they make electricity from the waste available in that area. Their technology has developed in such a manner; and because of decentralization and the autonomous nature of their system, they make it available in such a manner.

What happens here? If I want a project i.e. a thermal plant, I will have to come all the

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 way from Kerala to Delhi, and then process it. Finally, it may or may not come about. If there is decentralization to the extent as in Israel, it will be good. Of course, you captive plant suggestion is part of it, wherein industrialists and other people want to see that their own units are properly run, and something is made there. Of course, it is part of decentralization. But at the same time, with a perspective of common interest, with a perspective of society's encouragement and development, if cooperative societies are coming forward, if municipal corporations are coming forward, if gram panchayats are coming forward to produce energy within the resources available with them in a particular area, if such a decentralization is there, you can have wonderful results. This has been the history of developed countries: how they developed by decentralization of these things, and putting their requirements together and pooling their resources together and making money available. They made progress in this manner. Instead of doing this, we have always gone astray in these matters. But Gujarat has shown certain results in this field. With regard to non-conventional energy, the bio-gas method, windmill and all that, we are making proper impacts here and there; but the impacts are not sufficient. If they are properly monitored, I feel we can compete with any other nation in no time. If we go forward with that determination and that perspective, we can make progress quickly. I would request you to move forward in this manner, foresee things and work accordingly.

[Translation]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazaribagh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands of the Department of Energy which have been laid on the Table of the House. I believe that our future is secure in the hands of those who are successfully leading the Ministry of Energy. So much so that even our opposition colleague has also praised the performance of the Ministry of Energy. What can be more pleasing thing than this? His only complaint is that the work

is not being done as speedily as it should have been done. Their contention is right. They want that the work should be done with more speed. But, they forget that this task relates to the whole country and the Government alone cannot do it. The Government have done a lot in the field of Energy and the House is aware of it. How much development has been made in this field? In 1947, we used to produce 4,000 million units of electricity but last year, we acquired a capacity for generation of 2 lakh million units of power. In the next five year Plan the country would be able to generate still more power. But still we will not be able to meet the full demand of electricity in our country leaving a gap of ten thousand MW. The moot point is as how to meet this gap. Shri Thomas has just stated that instead of entrusting this work to the private people it should be got done through cooperative societies which may be developed for this purpose. I want to say in this regard that generation of power is not an easy job. Today, we are utilizing our whole capacity and exploiting all the available sources including World Bank help, if in spite of this, we are unable to meet the demand of the country, then there is no harm in entrusting this task to the private sector. Our only purpose is to generate more and more power so that the demand of the people may be met. An example of Kerala has been given that previously power was surplus but it is now facing a shortage.

The demand of power has increased there and it should. It was also said about Bihar and Orissa that in many villages the people have not seen electricity. Electricity must be provided to them. We have to attain these targets, and even after utilizing all these sources, we have to face deficits, then we should welcome every available source. There is nothing wrong in it. I want that Mr. Thomas should once again discuss these things with his colleagues and then let us all decide in what way this increasing demand of electricity can be met. We will have to think about it very seriously.

Keeping in view the progress we are making in this field, I am quite sure that we will be able to achieve success to a large extent. We are thinking of utilising money of

No-Resident Indians. We are also thinking of involving the Cooperative Sector and making efforts to exploit other such resources available in this field. There will be nothing wrong if the private sector is involved through captive power plant to electrify the houses of the people. The private sector would consume the minimum power themselves and the rest would be utilized for irrigation and electrification of the houses of the poor. Therefore, there is nothing wrong if we can utilize the private capital for the development of the country. I am quite sure that we all together will be able to achieve progress in this work.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, only power is not the subject of the Ministry of Energy. Apart from power, the Ministry is also responsible to run the economy of the country smoothly and to see that the economic condition of the country remains good. Coal is the greatest source of energy in our country and we will have depend on it for centuries. All of us unitedly decided in the Parliament to nationalise the Coal Industry so that its capacity was fully utilised for the betterment of the people. Several decisions have also been taken for its development and efforts are being made in this direction. As there has been 10-12 per cent increase in the power generation every year also is the case in regard to production of the coal. We need coal not only for power generation but also for steel plants and other industries. It is our responsibility to see that this work is carried on without any impediment. But it is however, regretted the opposition parties sometimes knowingly or unknowingly adopt such methods by which they believe that they can block the economic growth. The Indian public have rejected them. They want to shatter the economy of the country by indirect methods. Our opposition leaders have given a call for a Bharat Bandh some days ago. They want to curb the economic activity in a country where they live. The Bharat Bandh was just a show business. On the one hand, they are always for giving encouragement and strengthening the public sector, on the other, they gave a call for three-four days strike. I do not know whether the Public Sector was benefitted or not by this strike.

They were, however, not satisfied with the outcome of the call and they decided to give another call for 6 days' strike in the Coal Industry because they know that coal is an important item and if it is blocked for 6 days then it will very badly affect the Indian economy. I say with full responsibility that the country cannot tolerate the closure of coal industry for 6 days.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You were also going to support it.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: We were in favour of running the industry and we got it run. It is not going to be closed at your sweet will.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Had it not been started one week after the 15th day, you would have also supported it.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: That is a wishful thinking what do you do, is now before us. Your motive is before us and what was our motive it is also before us.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Our intention is clear.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Your evil design to ruin the economy of the country by disrupting the supply of coal for running power houses, steel plants and other factories will never be allowed to materialise. The coal mine workers are loyal to this country, they are not traitors. They are not agents of foreign powers. They earn their bread in this country, therefore, they will live and die for this country and perform their duties honestly. Therefore, the supply of coal would never be disrupted at your will.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You have also gone on a three days' strike.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Yes, we did go on strike but not for ruining the economy of the country. We went on strike to express our anguish and to achieve our right. If we do go on strike that will be for an hour or for one or two days. It would never be our motive to go on strike for six days to

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 close down Power Houses, Steel Plants and the factories. Thank God, that he heeded to your as well as our prayer. Who did what and where, it is before you and before us. As a result of united efforts, the 70 per cent of the total production of coal was maintained without any disruption. More than 70% of labourers attended to their work (*Interruptions*). So far as the target of coal production is concerned we will have to adopt a realistic approach keeping in view all the facts before us. We feel that there is a need to reconsider our approach. We have achieved the target which had been fixed last year, we were able to have a stock of 30 million tonnes this year against a stock of 20 million tonnes last year. On the one hand you say that you have suffered a loss of rupees two thousand crore due to deterioration of stock and increase in the handling cost and on the other, you have increased the stock of coal from 20 million to 30 million tonnes. The question is who will bear this additional loss? You first ascertain the total consumption of coal and then fix the target. The coal mine workers will definitely achieve the target. How can you say that there is no demand for it. Whenever there is shortage, it is known that the people like to purchase and keep in stock 4 kg of wheat against a consumption of 2 kg in anticipation of its non-availability in future. Coal production involves expenditure on wages, inputs and spare parts. You should take a decision that coal production is a national job and not to make payment is also a national job. Those who purchase coal will not have to pay for it. I quote an example. The Government of Haryana has decided not to pay for coal. Not only this, they have imposed a penalty by saying that stones have been despatched in place of coal. Same is the situation in respect of power houses. At present a sum of Rs.900 crores is due from power houses. Even its bank interest, not for one or two days, but for many years, has never been paid by them. What will you say about a State Government like Haryana. It would be wrong to stop coal supply. Therefore you should take a decision that coal should continue to be supplied without demanding its cost. Whether it is the U.P.

Electricity Board or the Haryana Electricity Board or Central Power Sector, every body understands that coal supply cannot be stopped. But they do not pay money for it. On the other hand, you will calculate a loss of Rs. two thousand crore. Thus there is no co-ordination. It has been mentioned in your report that salaries of labourers have been increased along with coal production, there are many schemes for their welfare and these schemes involve an expenditure of Rs. 132 crores., There are many fine things state in your report. After the presentation of the report it is claimed that huge losses have occurred. We should save money. Expenditure on spare parts and salaries can neither be reduced nor cut. Therefore, all the sums earmarked for welfare come under economy cut. They talked about providing housing facilities but houses have never been built. All their work is kept pending in the name of economy. Just now you have mentioned that you will spend so much amount on welfare and latter you will say that the country is facing a crisis. Then what are you doing? On the one hand you claim that work should be done according to the B.P.E. norms. You acquire land but do not construct houses. They said that housing facility should be provided. Does B.P.E. say that water should not be provided and that there should be no hospitals and medicines for labourers? For these things, you must take a firm decision. You do recognise and have no objection about the B.P.E norms. There are many specialities who take decisions about which we should have no objection. But whatever the norms, those should be applicable to all. If it is a norm to provide a house then, you should construct houses for atleast 50 per cent of people working in the public sector. You should first provide 2 lakh houses to them in one year and only thereafter talk of the B.P.E norms. If one party adopts the B.P.E.norms but the other party does not, then how will it be workable? Either you should say that everything will be provided according to the B.P.E norms and if it is not possible to do so, then it should be clearly stated now. But once you promise in the report to spend so much amount on the welfare, and after one month you take away

that money, then such a situation cannot be acceptable to anyone. I know that not a single penny has been granted top the Central Coal Field this year. Grants made last year have all been cut. The work on all the on-going projects has been stopped. For example, there is no money for purchasing beds for hospitals, there in no money for purchasing medicines, how it will do? I want that you may consider it deeply.

Just now one of our brothers has hinted that why we do not think of a strike for getting our demands accepted but he must understand that strike has its own place. If we work for the country, we have a right to fight for our rights steadfastly and obtain them. There can be no hinderance in obtaining them and we can never tolerate it. About 15 months have since passed, but our agreement has not been renewed. It is still pending, we want that you should take a decision on it as early as possible. We know that due to obstructing tactics on the part of our brothers sitting on the opposite benches it is not being finalised. It is our weakness that instead of ensuring rights of workers we want to have political settlement as to who will rule and in what way. In such a situation we cannot make any progress. We want that the Government should take some quick decision in this matter and clarify its policy on the new wage agreement. We are not ready to wait for more days. There are certain issues which have nothing to do with funds. If the Government has decided that the ten per cent provident fund scheme will be implemented then it is welcome. Under this scheme 8 per cent will be contributed by us and the remaining additional 2 per cent should be accounted for our contributory pension scheme. This agreement has been finalised by all, it has been agreed to by the STEEL Authority of India and by BHEL also but no body wants to enforce it whereas this decision was taken unanimously; this decision was taken jointly in J.B.C.C.I. by the Government and other people. The Government's intention behind non-implementation of this agreement is not clear to us. If a unanimous agreement is not implemented, then now the work will be carried

on. We want that first you should take a decision as to whose decision will be unanimously acceptable. What should we do if a decision taken by the Government is not unanimously accepted.

You do know that when the Coal Industry was nationalised, it was a very old industry. You have no idea about the age of super annuation of the people working there and about their working. The people like coalcutters, etc. who do hard work, have become very old by now. If you expect from them that they should load coal with the same capacity as they were doing in 1974-75, it is quite impossible. That has never happened in history. We had suggested in connection with old and aged people that those who wanted to retire voluntarily should be allowed to do so. It is in the interest of the industry too and new people will also get employment because the people there are without employment. In connection with such disabled persons, a decision was also taken in J.B.C.C.I., by the representatives of the opposition parties, of the Government, and of the industry. If that decision is not acceptable to you then what type of decision would be acceptable to you? We want that without delaying it any more, you should take an early decision in this matter otherwise it would result in resentment among the workers and the opposition parties would take undue advantage of this delay. They will not lag behind in taking undue advantage of the situation. We shall also not sit idle but also cooperate with you steady and till the labourers do not get their due rights. Till their due ambitions are not fulfilled, we shall also not feel any discomfort in struggling for it. When we struggle with you it will be a domestic struggle, which will prove costlier to you. We do not want that you should push us in a false struggle, we want that you should take some decision on it at the earliest. The ambitions and desires of the people should be fulfilled. Mafia gang is active and is trying to destroy the coal industry and spreading confusion among the people. We do face it fully and the Government is also bent upon to do so and I understand that she is capable to face it. The Mafia gang cannot harm you,

[Sh. Damodar Pandey]
you can face that gang. But till he people are not satisfied and their ambitions are not fulfilled, you cannot succeed in this job.

I want that Sathe Sahib should express his considered views on all these points. I assure you that 7 lakh coal mine labourers who are serving the country, will go on serving it and no body can distract them. You should take steps to enable them to march forward and get their ambitions fulfilled. The Government machinery which works at a tortoise pace, should be activated a bit. If this trend is not checked, we shall all suffer and so our country.

With these few words, I support fully the demands of this Department.

[English]

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands for the Ministry of Energy. I am glad to say that with the able administration and guidance from our hon. Minister, Sathe ji, the position of energy in the country has improved. But we will like to see that this energy is available at a cheaper rate to the common people, to the person living in the remotest part of the country. If the energy is available at cheaper rate, the prices of other commodities also can be brought down because energy is required not only in factories and in offices, but also in the agricultural farms for pumping water, which is done by seventy per cent of the population in our country.

I am glad to be a person from a State like Maharashtra which has got about twelve lakh pumps, as compared to about two lakh pumps in the State like Bihar, from where my friend Mr. Pandey comes. of course, the coal which is supplied from his State is responsible for the production of energy. Although the energy through the thermal power plants is increasing, we will like to see the increase in the energy produced through the hydro-electric power plants. We are glad to note that the second phase of the Singrauli unit of

500 MW has been commissioned this year and in Korba also a 500 MW units has been commissioned before time. So, if the projects are commissioned before time, the cost of installation reduces and we get the production also well within the targeted time.

17.08 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is heartening to note that the NTPC has obtained a profit of Rs. 211 crores this year. This is mentioned in the Annual Report and it is a good feature for the NTPC. Though NTPC could perform well but because of drought, the hydro electric plants could not perform well and their production has gone down to the level of 1980 production figures. This should, of course, increase. I would like to suggest that as in the case of China, we should go in for small and even mini hydro electric plants.

My friend, Shri Thampan Thomas, was telling about the position in Kerala. He forgot that in Kerala some hydro-electric power plants were to be established but because of some dispute, even the dam like Silent Valley Project could not be started. But, in other parts of the country, we have rivers like Teesta and Rangi which are flowing very fast from Nepal and Sikkim and if we can utilise the speed of the waters in those rivers and start production of hydro-electric power, we will be able to get a lot of electric energy from these rivers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the case of nuclear power plants, of course, we have not done good progress. In this sector also, I would like to point out that we should make some progress and the proposed expansion of Tarapur plant which has been suggested, should also be undertaken. Of course it is the subject under the Atomic Energy. But in the course of time, nuclear energy should also be given more boost and as we are able to produce the nuclear power plants indigenously- upto 98% of equipment we are able to produce indigenously- we should go

in for more nuclear power plants and so also use of hydrogen fusion should be tried and for this purpose more funds should be allocated.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since independence, we have been giving much more attention to the villages. In 1947, not even one thousand villages were having electricity. The villagers were not dreaming—the generation at that time that they would get electric lights in their homes and instal electric pump-sets in their farms. Starting from 3000 in 1951, we had reached the target of 3,70,000 villages where electricity facility has been extended till last year. We are trying to energise almost all villages in the country within the next four or five years. That will be a very good achievement and if you think that slums should not grow in the cities, we should be able to provide electricity, communication facilities and employment opportunities in the villages. If energy is made available on regular basis, that is, 24 hours in the villages and if some people can start small scale industries for which energy is available for 24 hours and for pump-sets, then production will be more in their fields and people will try to stay on in the villages instead of coming to the cities seeking employment and for seeking job opportunities. For this purpose, the budget provision made for 'Kutir Jyoti' by the hon. Finance Minister, Shri N.D. Tiwari is also a welcome measure and it should be supported by all.

Sir, as far as the Ministry of Energy is concerned, the Department of Coal contributes a major share for the production of energy. Last year, they had produced more coal as per the target and efficiency of coal production has also increased. But I do not understand that with the increase in efficiency in the coal production, production of more coal from open-cast mines, why does the production cost is still increasing? All possible steps for reduction of the production cost of coal should be taken so that in the long run, at least the cost will be maintained at a lower level. Otherwise, the increase will be still higher.

Sir, I am glad to note that production

from open cast mines is increasing by almost 31 per cent every year and this has many advantages. So also the output for man-shift has increased from 0.91 tonnes in the year 1985 to 1.02 tonnes in the year 1988. We hope to see further increase in this direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with the inventions and man's search for new and new sources of energy we have found that we have got very good potential for non-conventional sources of energy. I was in this House in 1978 also, in which year only Rs. 3 crores were kept for Research and Development in this wing. Now we find that during the last 4 years we have spent about Rs. 388 crores on this and this non-conventional energy is more useful and more practicable in the rural areas. We see that about 9 lakh gohar gas plants have been constructed. Last year the target was exceeded and more number of gohar gas plants are constructed and these gohar gas plants are not individual gohar gas plants, but we are starting community gohar gas plants and the use of these gohar gas plants is not only for cooking food, but we are trying to have coal engines run on these gohar gas plants and this will save energy, firewood and ultimately it will save the coal indirectly.

Sir, we have utilised the solar energy for installing milk filling plants at Bilaspur, Wardha and other places. This solar energy has also got very good potential as far as a country like India is concerned because we have got 12 hours or in some places more than 12 hours of sunshine and with this period of sunshine, if we can utilise it at a lower cost, it will be a great boon in the field of energy production. In the field of non-conventional energy also, the World Bank and the U.S. Department of Energy have made a study and they have stated that out of the 29 developing countries India has got the highest potential for wind energy and 20,000 MW of wind energy can be produced if this wind energy source is properly tapped. Efforts are also on in this direction and let us see that within the short time to come maximum wind energy specially on the coastal region is brought under use and it is also fed in the National Grid.

[Sh. Vijay N. Patil]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what we find in the thermal power plants is the performance. Sometimes some plants are showing poor performance and the plant load factor on an average is 53 per cent. This plant load factor has got potential for improvement and if this can be improved, we can make the energy cheaper, we can produce more energy. So also, we have got long transmission lines and the loss due to transmission amounts to about 21%. There is large potential for reduction in the loss in transmission. If this can be achieved through research, through proper implementation of the recommendations of various groups and various institutions, energy can be saved. We can give that energy to all, in full measure. My hon. friend, Mr. Thampan Thomas was giving examples of other countries like, U.S.A and Japan where per unit consumption of energy per head is more. But we should see our population also. If we compare the population of Japan or U.S.A. and our population, and the total number of units produced there and here, I think, our figures will be higher. Of course, our consumption will go higher with the industrialisation, with more and more agricultural pumps, more villages being energised. It would increase faster by the year 2,000 A.D.

We are also hopeful that through the non-conventional energy utilisation, whether it is solar energy, wind energy, energy through bio-gas or through hydrogen or tidal energy, about 250 million tonnes of coal will be saved per annum by 2001 A.D. as estimated. This is non-ending energy. I will urge upon the hon. Minister of Energy to give more funds for this non-conventional energy development so that in the long run, we save on money, cost and also on coal. It is heartening to note that the requirement of coal is decreasing. The thermal power plant is also becoming more cost effective and in the years to come, if we can complete with other thermal power plants world, with the increased capacity, we can do something to reduce the cost of energy per unit. We can supply this energy to all the States through national grid which is proposed and which is being erected all over the country.

With these words, I support the De-

mands for Grants under the Ministry of Energy.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN (Barpeta): Mr. Deputy Speaker, we will know that energy is the vehicle of economic growth; we know that energy is the basic infrastructure which is needed for the economic growth, and it is, in fact, the fourth factor of production. After land, labour and capital, energy is the fourth factor. But so far as we in the North Eastern region are concerned, sufficient attention has not been given towards our side. We are glad that we have been getting encouraging word from Mr. Vasant Sathe and that he has appreciated our problems. But we are a victim of years and years of neglect. When the British were there, they were concerned with oil and oil alone. They were not concerned with gas. They were also concerned with jute and such other products but not with generation of energy as such. The North Eastern region has the greatest potential in the matter of production of energy. Our proximity to the snow-capped mountains, the Himalayas, and the snow-fed rivers gives us the natural advantage which many other areas do not have. That is why, I would focus the attention of this House to take up dams. Quite a few projects for construction of dams, in fact, as many as 26 such projects, are being identified and if all these dams are energised, then the potential for energy is as big as 50,000 MW from which not only we will benefit but others in the rest of India will also benefit.

We have gas, Our gas potential is also 50,000 MW. This is one step which has not been handled uptill now in all seriousness. Our gas potential in Upper Assam and in the Arakan region is 1.23 million cubic metres per day in 1985-86 and by the Seventh Plan it is coming to an end almost, the figure may rise to 7.54 million cubic metres per day. I would very much like to focus the attention of this House to the potentiality of energy from the shortage of which the country is now faced. The importance of energy can be very well judged from a reading of the book "Dam bursters" and this bursting of dams was responsible for the defeat of Germany. Group Captain Cheshire took on himself the responsibility of a special mission which

caused bursting of most of the dams in Germany.

I say that North Eastern region deserves the attention which it has not got so far for in the matter of generation of energy.

These are the various dams which are under consideration and on which some spade work has been done. The Ranganadi Stage No.1, would produce 405 million MW costing over Rs. 360 crores. Kameng would produce 600 million MW; Tipaimukh would produce 1500 MW; Subansiri would produce 4800 MW and Subansiri would be one of the cheap sources of energy. Only Rs. 64 lakhs are needed to produce one MW of electricity. Dibang would produce 20000 MW and Dhansiri would produce 20 MW and there is another small project which is Thoubal which has the capacity of 75 MW. In fact, power generation in the North-East should be considered as an industry and it should be taken up by the Government of India themselves.

Sir, the objection that has been raised by Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Pradesh probably does not know that from Subansiri dam alone they can get Rs.30 crores per year. Their objection is that they are not going to displace 7000 people because of the effect of construction of dams and the subsequent displacement in the surrounding areas. That itself should not be their strong argument. Dams have been built in different parts of the country where thousands of people have been displaced. As far as Subansiri dam itself is concerned, provisions for the reahabilitation of the 7000 people, who are to be displaced likely, have been made. I do not understand why this cannot be taken up by the Ministry with the Arunachal Pradesh Government. I am happy to learn that our Prime Minister has laid the foundation of the dam called Ranganadhi. But this is a very small consolation prize for us. Even, if you go by units of production, Northern India has 530 units; Western region has 950 units; Southern region has 610 units; Eastern region has 490 units of power production which are major

ones whereas the North -Eastern region has only 82 units. Compared to others, this is indeed a very small figure. But we take it that the Eastern region is not a very big region. But if you take them for the economic growth North-Eastern region area we know that energy is the basic infrastructure which is needed for the econno as a whole, it is a big region. Therefore, the argument of Arunachal Pradesh goes down the drain. If we cannot take up big projects, we can certainly take up smaller projects like micro and mini projects instead of allowing energy to go waste. We have vast reserves of gas. Gas has been found out by the ONGC. We have 64.09 MW of gas reserves and there is 1500 MW for 15 years which can be worked out with cent percent strength. So, this is another thing which has been bothering us. Although gas and oil has been found many many years back, pipelines have not been laid in Assam. But so far as the other areas like Bombay and the Bombay High are concerned, even within 10 years of discovery of gas they have linked gas pipe line running from Bombay right up to Delhi (BHBJ Project). Atleast it is coming up shortly. But in Assam or in the North-Eastern region, no gas pipe -ines have been laid and the proposal which has been initiated by the Assam Gas Company has not been given due importance. It is said indeed to say that where discovery of oil was made 100 years ago, we do not have gas in hearths and homes. Whereas in Pakistan every hearth and home has gas. They have managed to get gas energy and don't have to rely on others. We are a much more advanced country and I don't understand why sufficient attention has not been paid. Of course, Mr. Vasant Sathe will be telling us about why it has not come through. There is some snag about it. But the pack of getting around people. He will be able to impress upon our State Government to help him and we will try our level best to help. Mr Vasant Sathe has been very frank in the deliberations in this House. He has been telling about the loss of TNV. This is one loss which does not come directly under the Indian Penal Code. But I have a feeling that we should have a special kind of legislation where this can be tackled if the Government of India wants it to.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: The Act has been amended. Now it comes.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN: That is right. This is one thing which has been bothering the Energy Minister. We are quite worried about it. Another point which I would like to make here is about the suggestions made by two very well-known engineers from Bombay who have said that Aquaduct can be introduced to supply the excess water to areas where they have a deficit of water. This is another thing which the Government of India could probably look into because we have plenty of water to spare for areas where the drought is causing havoc. The rivers in North Eastern India can certainly come to their rescue and this Aquaduct network, I would very strongly suggest that it should be taken up. I have just now found the two names they are Dr. S.K. Modak and Mr. B.N. Patka. these are two Research Engineers from Bombay who are doing research in the field of Social Engineering. I hope, our Minister knows about it and some action will be taken.

Last but not the least, I would impress upon the Government of India to kindly see that in North Eastern region a reservoir of energy is exploited in a very reasonable way early.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I supported the demands of the Ministry of Energy. I thank the hon. Minister that the Ministry of Energy has done a commendable job as a result of which we have been able to increase both our national income as well as production.

A target of 22245 MW energy generating capacity has been envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan and during 1987-88, the target has been fixed as 4916 MW. The hon. Minister has in a statement made in the Parliament today admitted that the production so far has been less than our requirements and there is need to increase it. For this, we will have to make all out

efforts. The hon. Minister has also pointed out that the demand of electricity in December 1987 was 18406 million units against the generation of 15874 million units, thus there was 13.8 per cent deficiency. In January, 1988 it was 12 per cent. In February, 1988 our demand was 17735 million units against the production of 15818 million units, thus the shortage was 10.8 per cent. In March, 1988 the demand was 18350 million units and the production was 16672 million units and thus the shortage was 9.1 per cent. I want to thank the hon. Minister that the national shortage has been brought down to a single digit and we hope that he will continue his efforts to increase the production continuously keeping in view the demand.

I want to make one submission more that there are 5 lakh 76 thousand villages in India and electricity is available in only 4 lakh 25 thousand villages i.e 75% of the villages. According to the statistics given in the performance report, there are 70,09,863 pump-sets in villages which have been energised up to 1987. Today, 80 per cent population of India lives in villages, but only 30 per cent electricity is available to them and 20 per cent people of urban areas are consuming 70 per cent electricity. Thus if this vast disparity between urban people and those living in rural areas persisted, it would take several years for rural people to attain economic equality with urban people. Therefore, there is a need to reconsider this matter. For this, some schemes have been formulated and a promise has also been made in the Seventh Five Year Plan, a pledge has been taken, for which I am thankful to you. It has been envisaged that instead of big projects small projects will be taken up but under these small projects generating capacity ranges from 1 to 5 MW and the State Government Corporations and Cooperative societies do not take any interest in small projects. Therefore, this work will have to be entrusted as an additional responsibility to the Central Electricity Authority or the Regional Electricity Board. It is for you to see as to how this work can be accomplished. I would now like to refer to Rajasthan. The mini Hydro Electric Projects

approved by you to be built on the Indira Gandhi canal, have not yet been taken up. The production should have started by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan. But today production is not expected till 1990. Therefore, we are unable to meet the local requirements of this backward areas with water from the Indira Gandhi Canal, as has been envisaged. In this connection, a definite scheme will have to be formulated in association with the State Government. The economic condition of the State Electricity Board is weak. Therefore, you will have to arrange funds to implement these projects. I would also like to submit that you ensure smooth working of the Rural Electrification Corporation. This corporation has earned a profit of Rs. 28 crores during 1986-87. During 1985-86 it was 16 to 17 crores. It is in itself a thing of great pleasure. the R.E.C. which provides electricity to 80% of the population, has been provided with very small amount of funds. According to your projection as on 31.3.88 the Corporation held Rs. 236 crores as equity, Rs. 1793.10 crores as Government loan, Rs. 543.31 crores as market borrowings, Rs. 220 crores as reserve and surplus, as such there is a total provision of only Rs. 2793.07 crores. The Corporation provides electricity to 80 per cent population of India, energises pumping sets, provides money to the Boards, makes payment against electricity bonds and also implement the Rural Electricity Programme. How can it be possible with this sum? You should look into it. You have done a very good job in floating bonds for Rs.150 crores and energised 1 lakh 50 thousand pumping sets. Its benefit has gone to Gujarat, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. I may be wrong. I am subject to correction. The State like Rajasthan which is affected by drought has not received the benefit. I would like to submit that electricity bonds worth Rs. 500 crores should be floated and accordingly five lakh pumps should be energised. This will lead to increase in production and increased production will benefit the nation. The Prime Minister has fixed a target for production of 17 crore 59 lakh tonne foodgrains. This means we will have to produce 2 crores and 50 lakh tonne foodgrains more. The Prime Minister has

told the farmers of the country that the Government will have to irrigate 2 lakh and 50 thousands hectares of land. It means that we have to provide additional irrigation facilities for 10 lakh bigha land. This can be done by constructing dams or through traditional wells, open wells or drilling bores. This will be possible when electricity is provided for all of them. You have no provision for supplying electricity. In my constituency, the farmers had applied for electricity ten years back but still they have not received electricity connections. In the same area, if electric connection is needed for a flour mill or for any industrial purpose, the same is made available within a period of one or 6 months. Though priority has been fixed for farmers yet they do not get electric connections for five years. If there are one hundred farmers in a village, the last in the list will have to wait for a long time. if you want to increase production on the basis of statistics, you will have to give due thought to it. If you borrow money and energise pumping sets, the farmer gets work, employment avenues increase and in unirrigated land becomes irrigated. This will also help you in the national production. It has been stated in the report that some programmes have been sanctioned for the agriculture sector. What criteria has been adopted for these programmes. It has also been stated at page 18 in the report of the Department of Power for 1987-88:-

[English]

"Agriculture Sector:

An administration scheme for rectification of 15,000 pumpsets, sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs, is under implementation in the States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat."

[Translation]

The Government has taken up only three States. Under these schemes, pump sets in the agricultural sector can be energised. The Government has implemented these schemes in three States. Energy is needed in a state like Rajasthan where drought has

[Sh. Ram Singh Yadav]
depleted drinking water resources. This should also be brought under agricultural schemes. Drinking water in Rajasthan is available 500-600 feet below ground level. Drinking water needs of the State cannot be met unless electricity is made available to draw up the water. The Government should prepare pilot projects to provide electricity to every village in these States. The needs of farmers would thus be met. There is a long-standing demand for a National Power Grid. I appreciate the Government's efforts in this direction. The Government has also tried to free the inter state projects of bungling in the distribution of electricity. The Central Electricity Authority has shown good results from the last one year. Effective steps must be taken to set-up a National Power Grid. The proposal to link it with the inter-state line is a sound one. The Atomic Project set up in Rajasthan to supply 200 Megawatt of power has failed to take-off. The electricity production in the State has to be increased to meet the shortage. After suffering 30% transmission losses, the State Electricity Board is burdened with debt. Sufficient electricity should be made available in the State so that the agricultural and industrial sectors are able to work smoothly.

With these words I thank you and support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy. Our country has extensive resources of energy. Our country also has had coal resources for a long time but these are gradually depleting. The need of the hour is to concentrate on hydro-electric projects rather than on coal based power projects. This way the electricity that we get will cost less. The Government should lay greater emphasis on hydro-electric projects. At present Himachal Pradesh has the capacity to produce 20,000 Megawatt of electricity. If hydro electric projects are established on rivers, canals and in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Assam, much more energy would be

available in the country. Hydro electric projects should prove most suitable for our country's needs.

Only yesterday the Hon'ble Prime Minister laid the foundation of a hydro electric project in our State. Shri Sathe has decided to let our State receive a 12% royalty on the Chamera Dam being constructed there. Hydro electric projects can be constructed in large number on the many water reservoirs in Himachal Pradesh. I request the hon. Minister to expedite the approval of all schemes recommended and sent by the Himachal Pradesh Government. The sooner we start work on these projects the sooner can Northern Zone avail work of its benefits. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation of Bhakra Dam in our State. In those days Himachal was part of Punjab, Bhakra dam gets water mainly from Himachal Pradesh and this dam falls under the jurisdiction of our State. When Punjab and Himachal Pradesh were made separate it was decided that the latter would get 7.19% royalty from Bhakra Dam. But, sad to say, what we are actually getting today is a mere 2%. I want an early decision on the payment of balance due to Himachal Pradesh. Further I demand that Himachal Pradesh be given royalty at the rate of 12% if any of its water reservoirs are used for future hydro-electric projects. I want to congratulate the Government because the continuous expansion of hydro-electric projects has increased the pace of development in the country. With better irrigation facilities farmers have been able to increase agricultural productivity. Every sphere has made some sort of progress. India has become self-reliant in foodgrain production because of constant developments in the energy sector. For this our Government deserves to be congratulated. Before 1947 our country did not produce so much electricity nor was electricity evident in villages. Today I am proud to say that electricity has reached every village in Himachal Pradesh. If our Government continue to do good work in the power sector, a time will come when every rural household in India shall boast of an electric connection. the development of the country depends to a large extent on the

energy sector. Without electricity, tubewells cannot be operated nor can small scale industries function. Non availability of energy will ultimately retard the progress of the people. I am pained to observe some vested interests continuously ridiculing the long term policies of the Government. These people want the country to remain undeveloped. That is why they launch agitations and encourage bandhs. Though such measures they want to create impediments in the country's path to progress. Several Labour unions have mushroomed throughout the country whose leaders are doing nothing except leading the country up the wrong path. The Government must be wary of such vested interests. It is not economic progress alone which is hampered by these elements but the entire developmental process comes to a standstill. I urge my colleagues in the Opposition to remember that this country belongs to all of us and our common objective is to take her forward. First of all we should consider this nation as our own. We all should co-operate and work hard to strengthen the Indian economy. because, in the growth of the country lies the growth of

every citizen.

I also want to raise the point of factories located in the Backward areas. State Governments do not provide power connections to these factories because they are in backward areas. This matter needs to be given some thought because it directly affects production. If electricity is not supplied to factory owners the Government will be deprived of its return. A mafia exists in the power sector on the lines of the one existing in the coal industry,

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sultanpuri you can continue tomorrow. The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then Adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 6, 1988/
Chaitra 17, 1910 (SAKA)*