

leadership remained unwilling to make the transition to democratic means. As we have repeatedly stated, the door remains open for talks with the LTTE for them to join the democratic process provided they give up their weapons and support the agreement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can ask for a discussion under Rule 193. Nothing will go on record. You can ask for a discussion.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may ask for a discussion under Rule 193.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing goes on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No discussion on this now. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow the lady member to speak. You may ask for a discussion under Rule 193. You may raise the question during the discussion and he will answer. This is not the proper time. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No clarification now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take up your seat. No discussion is being allowed now. I said, you may ask for a discussion. During the discussion, you may raise these questions. This is why the discussions are being allowed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Are you satisfied with the statement ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Who am I to be satisfied or not satisfied ? Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing goes on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : During the discussion, you may ask these questions. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1988-89—
Contd.

Ministry of Energy---*Contd.*

[English]

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy.

Energy is an important input in the all around development of the country. It helps in industrial development, plays a great role in agricultural sector, particularly in minimising the adverse effect of the vagaries of monsoon.

During the last drought, about two lakh additional pumpsets were energised.

In 1950, we had an installed capacity of only 1700 MW.

By the end of the Fifth Plan, this was increased to 28,500 MW.

During the Sixth Plan we added 14,000 MW. During the Seventh Plan the target is to produce 22,000 MW. Outlay for power sector has been increased from Rs. 34,273 crores to Rs. 45,273 crores.

It is a matter of satisfaction that in the field of power generation, particularly thermal, we have achieved a Plant Load Factor of 56 per cent during 1987-88, which is an improvement over 53 per cent national average achieved in 1986-87. The generation of thermal power registered an increase of 12.9 per cent in 1986-87 over the previous year. During the year 1987-88 an increase of 9.3 per cent over that in 1986-87 is expected. A shortfall in hydel power generation, due to poor monsoon has been partly made up by implementing a contingency plan. The drought so extensive and severe brought out the fact that we should have a national grid so as to supply power from surplus States to deficient States. I am glad the idea has been accepted now.

It is a matter of concern that transmission and distribution losses continue to increase and they are as high as 21 per cent. In developed countries it is 12 per cent. Even in some of our States like Kerala it is 10 per cent. The magnitude of these losses can be understood from the fact that a reduction of even 1 per cent in losses could make available 18,000 million units in a year.

I know that Government has announced incentive scheme to cut down the losses. Besides, the Indian Electricity Act has been amended to make theft of energy a cognisable offence. Already it is reported that Rs. 6.5 crores have been realised through prosecutions in 1986-87. In my opinion, greater vigilance and improved efficiency would reduce the losses.

The Rural Electrification has a great significance in developing rural areas, in transforming the rural scene. It helps in exploiting underground water for irrigation and drinking. It helps rural industries besides electrifying the villages.

The Finance Minister has in his Budget speech announced complete exemption from excise duty on electronic goods such as tape-recorders, radios etc. produced in

rural areas. I have no doubt that such concessions would encourage educated unemployed to set up industries in rural areas. It is, therefore, necessary that great importance should be attached to rural electrification. There has been a shortfall in the target set for 1987-88 both for electrification of villages and energisation of pumpsets. Besides, the supply is erratic and for a few hours only. Apart from causing damage to agricultural operations and rural industries, it is likely to hamper the success of the scheme for providing computers, television sets etc to our schools under the new education policy. Efforts, therefore, should be made to ensure continuous supply of power.

In this connection, let me mention the breakdown or closing down of our power stations due to inferior quality of coal. The Kanti thermal power station had to be closed for days for repair of damage caused by bad coal supplied from Khadwabari of Central Coalfields. This caused interruption in supply. This should be noted down.

Another factor causing complete stoppage of supply is non-replacement of burnt-out transformers. I know that hundreds of transformers are burnt and have not been replaced for months, if not for years.

State Electricity Boards are chronically mismanaged. At the beginning of the Sixth Plan, the total losses amounted to Rs. 65 crores. The Planning Commission has estimated that the losses would multiply several times by the end of the Seventh Plan. The question of generating surpluses therefore, is a far cry.

How do we improve the situation? I would suggest some measures :—

- (a) Manpower needs should be studied and surplus-staff should be paid off.
- (b) Government is having a programme for renovation and modernisation of power stations at an estimated cost of Rs. 6,000 crores. I understand the Centre has promised to lend Rs. 500 crores for this programme which would cover 34

power stations, and when completed, would add 3,000 million units per year. This programme should be given top priority and should be executed soon.

- (c) The loans advanced to the Boards should be charged a subsidised rate of interest.
- (d) Incentive scheme should be introduced for efficient and improved performance.

With regard to non-conventional renewable sources of energy, such as, bioga, biomass, wind and solar energy, and photovoltaic system, the allocations made is very poor. There is need for expanding the use of such sources of energy which are cheaper and do not disturb the eco-system. Moreover, biogas provides cheaper and better quality of manure also.

I shall just say a few words about coal. We have made some improvement in productivity but there is need for more. We have achieved our target of coal production. Australia, with 30,000 manpower, produces as much coal as we do with a large number of persons. How can we make it cost-effective? Hence resort to increase in prices of coal becomes inevitable. This aspect has to be noted.

Secondly, I would strongly urge upon the Minister that private contract system for transportation, etc. should be abolished. Some such scheme was mooted. What has been its fate, I would like to know. This would put an end to many malpractices including mafia system.

With these words, I support the Demands and I thank you, Mr. Chairman for allowing me to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, ours is an agricultural country and 80 per cent of its population live in villages. The Government policy is to uplift the poors from the poverty line. These 80 per cent people who live in villages are in dire need of electricity

and water. Tubewells have been sunk to draw water for drinking and irrigation purposes. But the power is supplied to the farmers for 8-9 hours only, which is not sufficient. I specially want to talk about the farmers of the Haryana that if the power is supplied to them for 16 hours a day, they would be able to contribute one and a half times more foodgrains than what they are contributing at present to the Central Pool. Therefore, the Planning Commission should grant more and more funds to the Power Project so that these may be completed within stipulated time and 80 per cent people of this country may be able to sustain their lives. The power is required not only for agriculture but it is required for industries also. If adequate power is supplied for tubewells there will be no need of providing Drought Relief because in that case there will be no drought at all. Therefore, power may be generated at the maximum. The help may also be taken from the Non-Resident Indians in this regard. There are many rich industrialist in the Private sector. Their help should also be sought for setting up power plants if they are willing to do so under the parametre of rules and regulations of the Government.

My other submission is about Thein Dam, power can be supplied from Thein Dam to Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Its construction work has been going on for the last several years but this project could not be completed due to the scarcity of funds. Similarly, there are some other big Projects such as Nathpa-Jhakari Project of Himachal Pradesh. If these Projects are completed in time then only the States of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana would be able to meet the needs of foodgrains of the country. The construction work on these schemes has been going on for many years and still they have not been completed. The Government should pay attention to this. A Thermal Power Plant at Jamunanagar in Haryana has been sanctioned and if it is completed quickly then the power to Haryana can be supplied from this Plant. Similarly, a Power Station at Aliganj of the capacity of 125 M.W. has been sanctioned by the Uttar Pradesh Government. The farmers have to face lot of problems due to non-completion of these projects I, therefore, urge upon the

Central Government to instruct the Uttar Pradesh Government to complete the work at the earliest.

With these words, I would, like to submit that by taking the maximum funds from the Planning Commission these Projects may be completed at the earliest so that the poor people can sustain with ease. I also like to say that whatever has been done in this regard is remarkable but there is still need to improve a lot.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands of the Ministry of Energy. The Government have done a lot to generate more and more power. That is why it has become possible now to generate 50 thousand M.W. power as against only 1300 MW at the time of Independence. No doubt, the power is being generated abundantly but the demand of power is also increasing day by day. Still, there is a vast gap between the demand and the supply and efforts are on to reduce this gap. Through you, I want to submit to the hon. Minister that the process of industrialisation has suffered a heavy set back because of this power shortage. Crores of labourers are jobless because of power shortage. Due to power cut the rural and urban citizens have to face lot of problems and the Government suffers loss in terms of revenue also. These things can be set right only if the Government pays its full attention to it.

Now, I would like to talk about the agricultural connections. The agricultural connections are not being released to the farmers because of the shortage of power and scarcity of funds with the State Electricity Boards. The applications for agricultural connections have been lying pending at Block Level for 6-7 years but no action is being taken on these applications. In Rajasthan which is reeling under the severest drought, no agricultural connection is being released there. In a district only 200 connections are released in a year because of shortage of electricity, due to which the people of Rajasthan are

finding themselves unable to fight against drought effectively. I, therefore, request you to make a separate provision for rural electrification. To achieve targets, maximum help based on district level should be granted to State Governments and Electricity Boards so that maximum agriculture connections can be provided.

When there is a shortage of electricity all around and there is great difference between demand and supply, we have to do some serious thinking about it. There are talks about associating private sector in power generation that private sector should be called upon for assistance, private sector should be encouraged. For this, you constituted an expert committee in March, 1987 comprising nine members and they submitted its report to Central Government in May 87 itself but no decision has been taken so far even after about one and quarter year or so has since elapsed. It is not proper to sit over the report of a committee like this. For this, something should be done. When you asked them to give recommendation about the role of private sector in power generation, about a year has gone by the submission of the report, nothing has been done on the report, so far, it is not a good thing. Meanwhile, cost of power generation has gone up by 20 per cent. How big loss it is. I want to submit through you that such a good committee was formulated and despite note of dissent given by one of the members, remaining 8 members, who were experts of the subject, had submitted the report unanimously. Action should be taken on the report without any delay. Since it was not done, cost of power generation has increased and other difficulties have also cropped up. I want to say that Government itself admits that they have not adequate resources and they are not able to bridge gap between demand and supply and they are not able to meet the demand fully. When we are not in a position to bridge this gap between demand and supply, why private parties or private sector are not being encouraged to set up power plants? Why they are not being given incentive? The committee consisting of 9 members has inter alia, made recommendations that they be given higher return on the capital

investment, interest be capitalised at the time of construction or extension, Interest Deposit Scheme be extended to them, they may be exempted from clearance from M.R.T.P. facility of external borrowings be provided and investment of capital by N.R. Is be encouraged. Unless you provide such incentives to them and they are guaranteed that power generated by them will be taken by the Electricity Boards, no one will come forward to generate power in private sector. You should consider all these aspects and some action should be taken on it. Mere talks will not serve the purpose and gap between supply and demand will not be narrowed. There must be a guarantee that power generation in private sector will have no adverse effect on working of Electricity Boards but if they are not given incentive or encouragement, then who will generate power in private sector. I want to convey to hon. Minister through you that cooperation of public sector is essential and power should be fixed before hand by Central Electricity Authority. It is alleged many times that if there is power generation in private sector, it will cost more. It is absolutely baseless and it is propagated by those who are interested in maintaining shortage and want to maintain gap between demand and supply for selfish motives or something else. I want to submit that guarantees should be given to private sector as well as State Electricity Boards that electricity generated by them should be utilised and power so generated is feeded to the grid of Electricity Boards. Such arrangements should also be made.

Besides this, I want to say that it takes a long time to streamline the financing procedure. Arrangement should be made to cut short time in arriving at decision.

I want to submit about non-conventional sources of energy that a project formulated by Rajasthan Government was submitted to Central Government and it was of 30 megawatt capacity. Discussions have been lingering on for months. I want to submit through you that this project should be approved and demand of Central assistance to set up Solar Thermal

Power Plant of 30 megawatt power should also be approved.

Similarly, a power plant of 430 megawatt based on H.V.J. gas is being installed in my constituency Antu by N.T.P.C. Gas is available in plenty and there is a acute shortage of electricity in Rajasthan. Considering all these facts, the capacity of this power plant can be increased from 430 megawatt to 800 megawatt. Gas is available there. I want to say through you that work on it has just started. If its capacity is increased to eight hundred megawatt, it would greatly benefits Rajasthan. Sufficient quantity of electricity based on H.V.J. is available. You can also construct another plant in Rajasthan.

With these words, I thank you for giving me time and again support these demands for grants.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support demands for grants pertaining to Ministry of Energy. I am thankful to you that you have granted me an opportunity to speak.

AN HON. MEMBER : Speak in Bengala, it does not matter much.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : No, I will try. I will not refer to the points which have already been covered by other Members, because Hon. Minister would have also become tired by now. This Energy Department is a very important department and our Energy Minister is also very energetic. Therefore, this department is working very properly.

It is true that our power generation at the time of independence was only 4 thousand million MW. which has now crossed to two lakh million. But still we have not achieved the desired target. But I want to tell one thing that it will not be proper to compare us our achievements with that of China or Russia because there is a great difference between us and China or Russia, our systems are different. It is correct that if something happens fine in any other country, we have to think about it.

I want to state that our beloved leader Indiraji had given a direction to Coal India Ltd. After that, coal production increased in Coal India and so is power generation. I want to say that there are many states in India where power is needed more. Not speaking about other states, I want to speak a few things about my own state since time at my disposal is very limited. I want to speak a few things about my state.

There is an acute power shortage in our state. Sir, you will be surprised to know that the name of Chief Minister of our state has since been changed. Now he is called even by small children as a load shedding Chief Minister. There is a power crisis in our state. Sir, if power is not generated, work can not continue in agriculture belt. If hydel power is not generated industry will not develop. If industry will not develop, our country will not make progress. We have to pay attention to it.

I listened to the speech made by the leader of C.P.M. Party. In his address he had urged the Minister to accept all the demands made by the workers who went on strike in Coal India. I am also not in favour of talking against the workers. I do support their justified demands. Negotiation for their wage revision should be held. Even after clapsing of 4 years, it has not taken place, it should be done. I support this demand. But I want to say one thing that the recent strike has adversely effected Coal India. What has happened in our Bengal? Earlier, 2400 wagons of Coal used to be loaded daily which reduced to 714 wagons during the strike. Coal production has also decreased.

Workers were not willing to go on strike there. Workers were not ready to participate in the strike. But C.I.T.U., A.I.R.T.U.C. Union and Non I.N.T.U.C. Unions forced them to go on strike. People in the management asked for police protection for themselves and the workers as well as officers who wanted to worked to but the State Government did not provide them any protection. On the contrary police arrested many people of Coal India and the Manager and took them to the police station. Mafia gang and musclemen did not permit

the workers to do work. The police provided no protection to working workers. Workers who were willing to work were arrested and put in lock-up by the police. What it was witnessed in the T.V. centre on 14th of March was a prelude to the incident occurred in Coal India on 15th March. Mr. Chairman, Sir, security to the projects of Central Government located in West Bengal is in danger. I am raising this because it is a matter of common interest. Members belonging to C.P.M. party make much hue and cry in a bid to project themselves a very noble persons. But it is far from the reality. Our Government is working for achieving socialism for the country but our workers in West Bengal are not being allowed to work. General public in West Bengal are facing a lot of troubles.

A sum amounting to Rs. 17 crore given by the Central Government for the rural electrification was returned back unutilised. As a result, villages were deprived of electrification. We must think over the problem facing West Bengal. We have to devise a method if the State Government does not give protection to the projects of the Central Government in the State. State Government is bent upon creating an atmosphere to make it believe that the Central Government is giving step motherly treatment to the state. This aspect must be looked into. The Central Government treats all state Governments equally irrespective of which party ruling there. We should not create such situation.

Persons belonging to C.P.M. often say that production is falling. If workers are not allowed to work how one can expect production to go up. The living condition of workers in the coal fields is miserable. They live in huts, where facilities of drinking water, education and roads are not available. The State Government should pay attention to it. The opposition parties should also think over it. The problem can not be solved merely by giving a call for bandh every day. Can a solution to the problems facing the country be found by raising the slogan.—'Rajiv hatao, desh bachao'. Rajiv ji has been elected by the people of the country and he would resign as soon as he is asked by the people and losses majority in the Parliament but

not on the demand of opposition parties. Will Shri Jyoti Basu, Shri N.T.R. or for that matter Shri Hegade resign on our asking to do so ? If they do not resign like this, why should Rajiv ji resign on their demand. Therefore, giving call for bandh frequently will not yield any good result.

The problem of power shortage is one of the many problems faced by our state. Nadia is a backward district in our state. People of this district have been experiencing acute shortage of drinking water for the last two months. Farmers have not been getting electricity for irrigation purposes. As many as 34 thermal power stations are not working. It is so because people of C.P.M. have pocketed the money. When the farmers belonging to different political parties such as C.P.M., Congress and Janata jointly staged demonstration to express their anguish over non-supply of drinking water and electricity and faulty pumps, the State Government could offer nothing but bullets for them. Three farmers were killed by the police. If any incident occurs in the country, the Members of C.P.M. ask the Government to give statement in the House within no time, but the State Government gave statement with regard to those farmers 6 days after the incident took place. When the Members of Congress Party raised this issue in the State Assembly two of them were arrested, another two were suspended from the service of the House and remaining members were beaten. I am not making any false statement. It is a fact. If my statement is found to be wrong, the members belonging to opposition parties may bring motion of privilege against us. Today the farmers in our state are getting neither water nor electricity for irrigation purpose.

Sir, I would certainly like to add one thing that there is power shortage in our state. Unlike them, we always lend our support to the cause of common interest. There is likely to be power shortage in our state during the Seventh Plan to the tune of 800 Mega Watt. Therefore, clearance for setting up Bakreshwar power plant may be given. The State Government, at their own, told that the Central Government did not give clearance to that project. I do not agree to the State Government's

version. I only want to request you that Bakreshwar Thermal Power Plant should be sanctioned in the interest of the state and its people. Our people would have to face serious problems if it is not sanctioned. These C.P.M. people are always indulged in policing only and creating rumpus here. They do not pay attention to the interests of the State.

I would now like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the poor living condition of workers there. It is very necessary. While the management there lead a comfortable life, workers have to live in miserable conditions. They live in huts. They have no facilities of education and health. Therefore, participation of workers in management is extremely necessary.

Sir, I would like to raise one point more. The General Secretary of D.V.C. Engineers Association has written a letter to the Prime Minister of India and a copy of which was indorsed to me by virtue of being an M.P. You will also appreciate that people of this country have every right to appraise the Prime Minister and their M.P. of their grievances for redressal. It is our duty to see the problems of people. Every one has got right to apprise the leaders of the country of one's problems irrespective of profession one is carrying. But one Shri R.K. Singh who is the Director (personnel) of the D.V.C. told the General Secretary that he should not write the Prime Minister or M.P. Hon. Sir, if it is accepted as a general principle, no citizen of the country can ever apprise the leaders of the country of their grievances. It is not proper that employees are barred from apprising the Prime Minister of their problems. It should not be so. Everyone appreciates the person who does work. Had it been said about the humble persons like us, there would have been some justification of it, but it has been said for the person like Prime Minister of India. So it is not desirable. No employee could serve the interests of his country if he is treated in this manner by his officers. You can yourself pursue the letter, it is with me. I pass it on to the hon. Minister. We are representative of people. We belong to public. If we do not represent them who else. Therefore,

I request to the hon. Minister, Sir, to also pay attention towards it.

I would like to suggest that the employees who worked during the period of strike should be rewarded and the employees who created disturbances and tried to put obstacle in increasing the production must be given deterrent punishment so that they may not dare again to make harm to the nation in future. The trade unions which try to lower the production should be banned. With those words I congratulate your magnificent performance. I also thank the hon. Chairman for allowing me to speak.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Energy moved by the hon. Minister. Electricity holds a very important place in the all spheres of human life. The hon. Minister had said in the conference of Energy Minister's of States that the country might have to face acute power shortage in coming summer season. The Chief Minister of our State Bihar was also present in the conference. He stated in his statement that the first phase of Tenughat project has been completed and the assurance was given by the Government of India for the second phase. But that assurance was remained confined on the paper only and no action was taken.

As per scheduled, work on Kati Thermal Power Station should have been completed by 1986. Only one of its unit was commissioned and we have been still waiting the remaining units to be commissioned. Not only the people of North Bihar but that of Uttar Pradesh too would have been benefited by it. If a scheme is not completed within the stipulated period, cost increases. In this way, problem of power shortage is assuming serious proportion day by day.

Yesterday, Dr. Gaurishankar Rajhans has made mention of Mafia gangs. Several other members have also made passing reference to Mafia during the course of their speech in the House. In this connection, I would like to say that if you go by

the report then you will find that in the year 1975 when Shri Savena was the Collector of Dhanbad, he had submitted a report on behalf on the Government of Bihar containing details of the Mafia groups operating in Dhanbad and indulged in coal smuggling at a large scale. If you make persual of that very old file, you will find that Mafia people, irrespective of which party they being had left Dhanbad so long as Mr. Saxena was posted there. The people of Dhanbad still remember that good days. But when he was not transferred, the same people used money power to get him transferred from there and threaten him that his transfer was a petty, trivial thing for them. You can definitely get control over the people of Mafia by taking the same steps against them as were taken earlier by Mr. Saxena.

After nationalisation of coal mines, a committee named Charj was appointed. The Committee submitted its report 3-4 months ago explaining therein the reasons for growing mismanagement. If no action is taken on the report of the Committee we can not make progress with regard to power production.

A project named Koyalkaro was stopped due to the disputes created by Adivasis. Thus the condition of Vihar Pradesh has become very miserable. Last year power generation made slight improvements and a scheme of rural electrification was launched by Government for uplifting of the poors but if you go to any district of Bihar will find that only a few villages have been electrified under the scheme. Even in my own district Gopalganj only three villages have been electrified under this scheme. On being asked, it is replied that instead of increasing, power generation capacity is reducing.

The state to which I belong was reeling under floods and drought. We boldly faced that difficult situation but still there was not increase in power production.

Although I am an independent Member of the House but still I hold this view that whichever department Mr. Sathe has headed, he has done well, and my good

wishes are with him. We want every work to be done systematically in our country so that we may increase the capacity of production. The people found to be creating hindrances in it should be put behind the bar. You should also pay your attention to improve the conditions of poors residing in villages. Efforts should be made provide electricity to the tube-wells installed in the villages. Hence electricity must be supplied to these villages. I would like to tell you that the condition of farmers can be improved only when the arrangements to supply electricity for 10 to 15 hours daily are made.

With these words, I conclude and thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me time to speak. Since the day Mr. Sathe has taken the charge of this Ministry it has made much progress and for this I congratulate him.

You are well aware of the situation created due to unprecedented drought in India. We have achieved the target to supply electricity to the farmers. Our Engineers and high officials had made much contributions in the production of 4900 MW of electricity after the very first year of launching the Seventh Five Five Year Plan. Our hon. Minister has brought much improvements in this Ministry. As you are aware that the country cannot make progress without electricity.

17.07 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

We have set a target to produce food grains to the tune of 175 million tonnes. I would request to the hon. Minister to provide electricity to the farmers on priority basis so as to achieve this target. At Present only 10 to 20 per cent of the total electricity generated is used by the farmers and the remaining 80 per cent of electricity is supplied to the industries. You should also pay your attention to check the theft of power. The poor farmer doesn't steal electricity but on the contrary he makes his maximum efforts to do work

honestly. I would like to tell you that your definition of electrification of villages" needs to be slightly changed because by setting up a motor pump in a village it is said that the village is electrified. Similarly if an electric lamp is provided in a village the village is a demed to be said fully electrified. I want that the electricity should be provided to at least 70 to 75 per cent houses in the villages. Attention is also invites to my district where $2\frac{1}{2}$ lacs wells were dug and $1\frac{1}{4}$ lacs pumpsets were set up but they remained unutilized due to non-availability of electricity.

The Electricity Board of Maharashtra has been earning profit, for which you deserve to be congratulated. I would request you to set up a Gas Turbine which is very much needed for power generation. The prevailing price of the Gas is also required to be reduced. Big Power Turbines in a large scale are required to be set up by the Central Government for power generation. This will help in increasing power production to some extent.

The progress chart of work given in your annual report is a welcome step. I want that the work should be speeded up so that the country could make progress.

Now I would like to say something about non-conventional energy. A plan to generate 15 thousand MW of electricity by the year 2001 has been made. I want that more and more electricity be supplied to the farmers.

I think that Solar Energy is the best energy and it is very useful in remote areas. If you want to protect trees, there is no other alternative extent adopting Solar Energy. Therefore, I would like to request to the Planning Commission to allot more funds for it because it will greatly help in providing more jobs to the people and that too at their door steps. It will reduce regional imbalance and maximum infrastructure can be created. I would not like to say anything more as you are signalling me to conclude. I thank you very much for allowing me to speak. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to give priority to the Non-Conventional Energy and to achieve the target of producing 175 million

tonnes of food grains so that this country should never face a shortage of foodgrains.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first I want to thank all the hon. Members who have participated in the debate and made very valuable contributions. At the outset I would like to say that this infrastructure field dealing with coal, energy both in terms of generation of electricity and also non-conventional sources of energy has really done well in the last 2-3 years and particularly this year. This is because of the goodwill of the Members of Parliament, of the workers in these departments and of the management. So I want to be on record in congratulating the entire work force and the management on behalf of all of us for the good work they have done.

People in my Ministry have all worked as a team. Believe me but for such a team work, constant monitoring and coordination between Coal Department, Power Department, Railways and all other concerned this improvement which in some respects is remarkable would not have been possible. Take for example, what is known as plant load factor (PLF). For many years we were seeing it was virtually stagnating. We were doing our best to raise it. Even the Planning Commission with great hesitation said : Alright you try to reach 53 per cent because it was as low as 47 and 50. As hon. Members said if you increase it by 1 per cent it is equivalent to generating power of 500 MW in the entire country. That means Rs 500 crores investment. If that 1 per cent increase brings about this then you can imagine if our people put in effort and bring up the PLF to 50.4 per cent which is above the target of 53, I think they deserve to be congratulated.

May I tell you a secret ? This PLF is also little illusory because but for the four States in the Eastern belt who inspite of all the effort could not raise their PLF beyond 43 average, viz, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam. Some of them, like West Bengal, with all the efforts are

below 40, 38. Average for the last year is 38.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : 41 in your report.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I should know better than you. (Interruptions) This is 41 at one time.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Last year, 41 in your report.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : You are happy with 41 ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I am not satisfied.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Every per cent one is calculating Rs. 500 crores.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is serious about it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That's right. I was trying to persuade these eastern units if they could bring their PLF even to 50 per cent-not more-you see, the national average would have crossed 60. This is what I have been saying to our people since I took over this Ministry. I have been saying and they say : Sir, what are you... You are giving impossible targets to us. I said, "Look, we must aim at 60. 60 PLF must be achieved." Believe me, now it appears realistic because just these four States were to cooperate.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Uttar Pradesh also.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : No, no, Uttar Pradesh has done better. Uttar Pradesh has crossed 50.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't disturb the Minister.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, you know, last time also, when I spoke, I was thinking of this subject in a holistic

manner. We as a nation and we as a Parliament, what is it that we want? We want this infrastructure to be built in such a way that we become a strong nation, a nation on par with the world, with the best in the world. Not only best in the world, but we should try to go ahead of some of the developing countries. That should be our ambition. Therefore, the coal sector was nationalised.

I can tell you, we should be proud. This nation has every right to be proud of its achievements in the last 40 years since our Independence. If you take only the power sector, we began from the low level. We have achieved success, although in absolute terms, I myself have been saying that we have a for a way to go.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Fifty million are unemployed.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Just from 1,340 MW in 1947, you cross today 53,927 MW. And now in this month with four units that we have got, we have crossed 54,000 MW of installed capacity. See the tempo, Sir. Out of a total number of 5,76,000 villages, if you are able to electrify 4,26,323 villages, is that not a matter of pride for anyone, for all of us, irrespective of on which side we are? (*Interruptions*)

Whatever is good for us, we can share both. Isn't it? That is not a question of this side or that side.

Now pumpsets. After all, pumpsets are responsible for irrigation. They have been mainly responsible for growth in our agricultural production and also in meeting the drought situation. The way we could combat the situation, it was mainly on account of electricity and the pumpsets. How many pumpsets, Sir? All Members should know this figure. The pumpsets electrified in 1947 were just 21,000. We have now electrified 70,46,000 pumpsets. Is this not a record achievement?

So, when many people try to denigrate, I am willing to introspect, I am very harsh on ourselves and I will come to that immediately. But the good things of our achievement also must be noted. Sir, in

coal sector, when we nationalised, what was the situation? The price was Rs. 47 per tonne. Now it is Rs. 230 per tonne. Why? This is what we must ask. Before I come to that, let me tell you what we have done in that field of welfare in coal. This also is something which we must know and be proud of. Why did we nationalise? When Mr. Kumaramangalam moved the resolution in this House, the main reason was that the workers were exploited and their living conditions were horrible. If not all, well I know, let us consider at least how we were and how far we have come. You must remember this all the time and that is the trouble with opposition. At the time of nationalisation, not far back, only in 1973, the people who had water supply were only 2,27,000. After nationalisation, we have increased it to 18 lakhs. That is the population covered with drinking water supply. From 2 lakhs, we have jumped to 18 lakhs. It is 9 times. Is it not a matter of satisfaction?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : For how many years?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is just ten years. ...(*Interruptions*)... What are you talking, Thomas? This is not population increase. This is population covered. Don't be a doubting Thomas. You should be proud in this matter. Seven lakh employees were there. The employees have remained more or less the same but the number covered, the population which was covered with the drinking water supply was just two lakhs. It has been increased by 9 times...(*Interruptions*)... This is underground mining. You talk of the surface. Some people are not willing to even see the truth and realise the facts and be at least proud of certain facts. I have not created these facts. You were talking of housing...(*Interruptions*)... I have gone there many times. I come from an area where there is coal mining. Probably you do not know. I know this place very well. I have been in the trade union movement dealing with coal for more than 30 years.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : As a socialist and not as a Congress man.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will come to your socialism presently. The housing

satisfaction increased from 18 per cent to 45 per cent. You may say it is not 100 per cent. But this increase is in a period of less than 13 to 14 years after nationalisation and on the welfare budget we have spent—what was the expenditure when we became free? The revenue expenditure, the total expenditure on welfare activities in 1974-75 was actually Rs. 6.1 crores. It has increased today to Rs. 351 crores on welfare. You must understand that this Government has not spared any effort, although you can say that if you have spent Rs. 6000 crores, compared to that, this amount.....

AN HON. MEMBER : How much money has gone to the pocket of the contractors?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is a different story.

This money has gone towards welfare. These are some of the facts in power and coal sector of which we should be proud.

Now, I will come the question of : are we satisfied? It is unfortunate that on one hand, we talk of socialism, but what is socialism?

AN HON. MEMBER : Please explain that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will try to, but to a communist what lecture can I give on socialism? He is supposed to know everything by his birth.....

(Interruptions).

Socialism in a democratic setup, as I understand, is welfare of all members of our society and a balanced growth of all members of our society, so that at least the minimum needs of every single member of our society, every single individual, must be met. That is the meaning of the word socialism.....(Interruptions). Yes, Sarvodaya is larger than that. Our whole ethos are based on socialism. You will not understand that. What did your seers says :

“Sarve bhavantu Sukhinah
Sarve Santu Niramayah.”

Sarve Bhadrani Pasyantu,
Ma Kaschid dukhahbhagbhavet.

There cannot be greater aim of socialism than what our seers have thought. Our seers said :

‘Sahnavavtuh’

I would like any dialectical Marxist to give a better definition of a socialism than what our seers have given :

“Sahnavavatu

Sahanau bhunaktu

Sah Virya Karvavahai

Tejswina madhi tamastu

Ma Vidvshavhai.”

If you want to achieve this objective, you must first give up your hatred. First give up your malice. Unless you do that, will never be able to achieve social welfare and national good, or good of all. This is the basic thing if my friends understand. It is in that spirit that I am speaking today. I want you to appreciate that if we really want to bring about growth in this infrastructural field, we have to be competitive with the world. We must do it better than other countries in the world if we have to catch up the backlog and come at par.

When we nationalised the coal, what was the situation, what was the cost and productivity and what is it today? I am talking of totality. I am not blaming anybody. I am not blaming workers per se. I am asking you to consider the entire scenario of coal production, how the cost has gone up and we are caught today in a high cost vicious circle. You must appreciate that. Why? It is because our coal production, productivity is one of the lowest in the world. In underground mines at the time of nationalization, it was 0.5, less than half a tonne. Till today in underground mining, it is the same. I will not take examples of European countries or other countries, because you

will say they are highly advanced, but I will take the example of China. It is similarly placed, big population and producing coal. They were producing lesser coal than us in 1947. Today, they produce 900 million tonnes of coal and 97 per cent of their coal production is from underground mines. Do you know the OMS of underground mines : It is 2.1 tonne per worker, per day work shift. That is four time more than what our workers produce in our country. How much wages does he get, let us see that also because otherwise you will say that he is better paid. He gets Rs. 15 per tonne. For producing 2 tonnes, he gets Rs. 24 per day.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What about the other facilities like the cheaper prices and all that ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Please listen to me. How would the prices in a country become cheaper ? Unless your infrastructure becomes cheaper, your prices naturally will also not be cheaper. What do they do with it ? Because they produce more coal, they are able to produce more power and because they produce cheaper coal they are able to produce power cheaper. And because they produce power cheaper, they are able to produce steel cheaper. So, like this they are producing today 60 million tonnes of steel and they going to reach the target of 90 million tonnes of steel while you are stuck at 11 million (*Interruptions*).

If you want to build this country, if we really want to build India together then you must appreciate that it has to be competitive and productive in competition with the world. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : So long you will be there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASANT SATHE : But what do my friends do ? Instead of bringing the socialist culture, we thought that after the nationalisation at least those who believe in Socialism should understand.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Do you want to have another speech ? Otherwise listen to me. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazari-bagh) : There is no person like Basudeb Acharia there who instigates strikes.

AN HON. MEMBER : Certainly there must be. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have asked only the Minister to speak. I have not asked the other Members to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, I have not allowed others to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing to Mr. Sathe.

“Aay jab bhi Dekhenge Sunahri Sham dekhenge,

yeh jab bhi Dekhenge Khali jam Dekheng.”

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Ulberia) : Everything looks yellow to a jaundiced eye and to him also, everything looks yellow.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Congratulations.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please address to the Chair.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, after all, all those who support very strongly that we should have nationalised industries and those who support the public sector, those who believe in socialism and think that nationalisation and public sector will have a commanding height and should have the commanding height—as Bengal was spear-heading the socialist movement —as least those people should have given a thought to this that we must make public sector where there is no employer-employee relationship and where there is

no 'malik' and 'naukar'. Therefore, at least there, should we, we who belong to the movement of the working classes in this country, not have given some thought and said, look what is going to be the productivity in our country? Should we not have said, how shall we beat the world, how shall we compete with the world, and how shall we make this infrastructure not only competitive but cheaper so that we produce more infrastructure and down-stream industrialisation grows right up to the villages where our people live and where employment is to be generated and wherever the young men today are not employed and are getting restive? Should not that have been our objectives? If that had been our objectives, I am sure, if you introspect—search your heart a little—you would have said that it is never too late, at least now let us see where our productivity stands. I have never said that I would like a single worker to be retrenched. No. All I am requesting again and again is that in our public sector, let us try to achieve the productivity of international norms. I will give an example. Just as you go to Olympic to play or to ASIAD in Seoul, do you ever say, "look, I come from India and, therefore, you must give me a handicap. You must put me hundred yards ahead right from the start because I come from a poor country." Do you ever say like that? You will have to be competitive in this world. If you want to export goods, you will have to be competitive, your production will have to be cheaper and it will have to be of an excellent quality. Can you not appreciate this? If you want to do this, should we, who are the champions of public sector, who want the public sector to occupy commanding heights, not make the public sector efficient and competitive? Instead, what did my friends do? And this is what saddens me. I just give one example of what did in this recent strike.

Sir, in the JBCCI meeting, only two points remain to be solved. Just five or six days before this strike, I myself attended the meeting of the JBCCI held in Delhi. The Minister of State also attended it. We discussed and only two points (1) voluntary retirement scheme and (2) pension scheme were to be settled.

We were negotiating and we were trying to see how we can bring about some solution, taking into account the repercussions in the public sector and other related issues.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA : How many years will you take to decide?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Even if it takes time, should you get impatient? Did we refuse to negotiate? Were we not having talks about it? We have been trying to find a solution, sincerely. I myself was taking the initiative. I had taken initiative earlier. You know it fully well. I took initiative when I saw the interim wage problem. It shows our sincere desire to find a solution. Now, when we were negotiating, should you have to make those two points an issue for a political strike?

SHRI BABUDEB ACHARIA : It was not a political strike. You forced them to go on strike.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The national Bandh was political. The national bandh had only one demand—'Railjiv Gandhi Hatao'. That was the call of the national bandh. Why did you synchronise it with a strike in the essential sector? And that too, it was not for one day. See the mischief! And that is what saddens me. Six days' strike in the coal sector! If it had really taken place, if we had not taken care, if the nationalistic and patriotic workers had not cooperate with us and not frustrated your efforts, if we had not stock-piled coal, what would have happened? Six days' strike in coal would paralyse the whole country and your intention was to paralyse the whole country... (Interruptions). Just imagine what would have happened. If power stops, agriculture is the worst hit first and then comes industry. All the essential services in the country get paralysed.

What was the result of this strike? Just let me tell you how much loss was suffered by the nation because of this six day strike. This is what saddens me most. I was taking pride in the fact that our industrial relations were so good, with all the central trade union organisations, whether it be CITU or INTUC or AITUC.

I am not making any discrimination. We were having talks with all the unions and you may ask Shri Damador Pandey about it. We were negotiating all the time and trying to settle the problems.

But Sir, in spite of this, did you know as to how many mandays were lost on account of the strike? Also, do you know how during the last four years, the number of mandays lost was coming down successively? And this year, upto the month of December 1987, it was a proud achievement. I was taking pride in it and I told myself, "Oh, this year we are going to announce a record". Do you know what was the record? It was just 46,000 mandays lost as against six lakhs of mandays lost in the previous year, and that too because of the one day strike.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Shri Damador Pandey was also in it, including the INTUC.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am not excluding anybody, whosoever he may be. In the year of before, it was 1,52,000 mandays lost. Now look. What did our friends do? They said to themselves, "They have this record of just 46,000 manday lost! How can we tolerate that?" Therefore, they declared this six day strike. And what is the result? Because of this six day strike, the loss in production amounted to 10,69,000 tonnes! Nearly a loss of ten lakhs in six days. And the number of mandays lost was 10,25,000. So you add this now to this 46,000. And you want to take pride in it. Whom are we trying to serve? Whom do we serve?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You compelled them to go on strike. You are responsible.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : If all had gone it would have been much greater. It is only due to the damage that you could do. The wages that the workers lost were Rs. 10 crores in six days. Now whom have our friend served? If that is the attitude of our socialism, I really feel sad and anguished. I told you what was responsible. Is it those two items which you mentioned? We have negotiated it. If

that had failed, you could have made it as an issue.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Over the last three years, they have been waiting for the wage agreement.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Whether it is three years or two years, as long as you are negotiating on a very major issue, it is basic trade union courtesy and gesture, if a matter is under negotiations, till the negotiations fail you should not make it an issue. If you are not happy you can say that the JBCCI is a failure and that you don't agree, and that you don't negotiate on this. Then you will be free to go on strike. You could have said that. But no. You want to come on the negotiating table on one place and say you are willing to negotiate and in the same breath you want to go on strike on that issue. This is what is shameless. I would like to submit that it is not only shameless but anti-national, anti-socialist. This was totally anti-national and unpatriotic act on the part of those who provoked them. That is what hurts me. At least those who talk of socialism....

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You call them anti-nationals... On the one hand you have complemented them on the achievement and on the other hand you are calling them anti-national.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I compliment those workers who are loyal and patriotic and who work in spite of the provocation and intimidation by the wrong people.

Apart from this, I would like to give another important thing. So much has been said about Bakreshwar and West Bengal and how the Centre is unfair to West Bengal because West Bengal is equated with marxist progressivism in every field. So let us now see each item. First let us see your achievement.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Andhra also.

AN HON. MEMBER : Bihar also.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will touch Andhra and Bihar but in a different way.

But let me first deal with our achievements in West Bengal. Their performance in all the fields relating to energy....

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You say first about Bakreshwar.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will come to Barkeshwar. I will say about Bakreshwar, last, because that will hurt you the most. So I want to spare you. Let me take the other things. In the last three years, they have constantly fallen short of their generation target. As a result, the position is that there has been a shortfall from your target of 1.56 billion units. You make a note of it. Whereas the plant load factor....

(Interruptions)

What have I done there? Did I come in the way of the production?

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur) : Not production, but money. You are not giving the money.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Money was not required for that. I am talking of the existing plants. From your existing plants, you could not produce. You must at least understand elementary things. Whereas the plant load factor of most of the States has shown improvement—even Bihar and Orissa, and others improved—in West Bengal, the plant load factor showed deterioration, with the result that there was a decline of 3.2%. Here you are talking of 1% more. It is not.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Last year it was 41%.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will tell you what it was. The PLF of West Bengal was 38.6.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : When?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Last year. It was below the national average, which is 56.4. The record of West Bengal in the commissioning of the new capacity also shows that there have been considerable

delays. How much of delays? They were blaming us saying: 'The Centre is not clearing.' etc. Now see their own project. There was a delay upto six years in the commissioning of units, compared with the original commissioning dates. Whereas Kolaghat Unit-II was scheduled for commissioning in March 1973, it was actually commissioned in December 1985; and they are talking of delays.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Why?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : At that time Siddhartha Shankar Ray was there.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : At least for the last eight years you have been there. Now you see what your achievement is. Similarly, the DPL extension unit scheduled for commissioning in June 1979 was actually commissioned in July 1985. The delay of six years. See each project of theirs.

Even the rural electrification programme, there have been persistent shortfalls *vis a vis* the target, both in village electrification and in pump set energization. The Centrally-sponsored programme of renovation and modernization which is being implemented in the States since 1985-86 at Santaldih, Bandel and DPL thermal power stations. There also, there has been a very slow and tardy progress. Whereas the actual work should have been completed by 1987-88, till now only an amount, as Kumari Mamta Banerjee mentioned, of Rs. 23.83 crores have been utilized, against the Central loan assistance component of Rs. 42.79 crores. Now can you explain? (Interruptions) Can you complain now that the Centre has not been helpful to West Bengal? Mind you, this was for the poor people.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How much time did you take to release funds for the Kolaghat project? You tell that now.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Let him tell the full story. You waited till the Power Development Corporation was constituted, and then you released the money.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : But that was the condition, viz. that you must have

a corporation; and you did not want the corporation. Any way...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : You could not utilize it for the people of West Bengal.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The money was meant for the rural people, for the poor people. If these people cannot utilize that also, how can they talk of serving the poor people in the country ?

Now we come to Bakreswar, the most favourite one. Bakreswar was a purely State project. We approved that project. The project was for 600 MW. We said : 'You find the money; you also find whatever partner you want; you decide. Let it come to us as any other feasibility report comes. We will examine it. If it is feasible technically, and commercially, we will approve it.' Okay. Now what do they do ?

The first thing that they do is that they do not invite offers or tenders. Private parties come to them. Who are the private parties ? One is American Multinational Kulgion. This is one offer in collaboration with Japanese Multinational. Another offer—you abuse day-in-and-day-out Birlas and Tatas—to Birla.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : No, no, It is with the Soviet Union, not directly with Birla.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Taking commercial assistance...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Is there any truth ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am speaking the truth. Birla is taking commercial assistance from the Soviet Union, commercial loan.....*(Interruptions)* Later on, Birla brought in another multinational, brown Boveri Corporation.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You come to the present position.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will come. You have patience. That is all. I am not

agitated. You don't get agitated. *(Interruptions)* Let us once for all clear the project because in your Assembly there the Chief Minister goes on making misleading statements day after day about this Bakreswar. I want, therefore, to put everything on record here. What happens now ? They sent those proposals; those proposals have no details; just proposals; that this party is also waiting to come; this multinational should also get it; and I will not tell you further secret because if I do, it will hurt you more.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You can tell whatever you know.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I was being persuaded that I should accept the American offer in preference to the Soviet offer. I said, nothing doing; we are not going to do that unless we find that it is in the national interest; we must have that taste. So, next day, what we do when we find that Birla offer was not serious. So, it could not have come through even with Soviet assistance. Then we pleaded with the Soviet Government. We said, when you are giving nation-to-nation credit, after the visit of Mr. Gorbachev and all that, they were willing to give us for Tehri and other projects Rs. 3000 crores worth of credit for 3000 MW. We said, why don't you increase it to nation-to-nation credit. The term of nation-to-nation credit is that must be utilised at the national level; it cannot be passed on to various States because otherwise no national responsibility can be there.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Was that particularly for Bakreswar Project or not.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is for us. We told them that if they increased their grant, we would utilise it; we would take up the project on our responsibility as a national project. We will take up Bakreswar as a national project, utilise your credit, please increase your credit. They have agreed to increase it by Rs. 100 crores. That is why I approached the Chief Minister. I wrote to him. I spoke to him personally. I approached him and told him that, look here is a good proposal;

originally you were thinking of 600 MW and we were all tied up with this multi-national and all that problem and also monopolists of this country, instead of that, NTPC will do this project. I am thinking of the people of Bengal; I am not thinking of your party; I am thinking of the interest of the people of West Bengal. Let me explain how the interest of the people of Bengal will be served better. I will explain to you and then you will appreciate. We are said, instead of 600, we will make this project of 800 MW; we will increase it by 200 MW from this. We said, you wanted to invest Rs. 100 crores, Rs. 200 crores originally in your plan or something in West Bengal. I said, "How much are you willing to invest? Whatever you invest, I will give a new proposal. In that proportion I will give you additional power."

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How much ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will tell you, how much. On an investment, normally we know for one Megawatt today's cost is Rs. 1.5 crores. Now any person with elementary mathematics will appreciate that if you invest Rs. 400 crores only, and I give for that 600 Megawatt of power, will that not be a boon for the people of West Bengal or not? Then, you tell me. For Rs. 400 crores you get 600 Megawatts. Actually, it should have cost Rs. 700 crores, at least. But I am giving it why? Because of this arrangement with the Soviet Union, because we will be able to set up the project.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Soviet Union have no objection.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : What is the question of their objecting? It is the national policy. See how they misunderstand. Let me tell you. It is not question of their objecting. These are the rules. The bilateral State to State credit as I said, cannot be utilised. But there are credits like World Bank, ADB, OECF, these are like bank loans. If such loans are utilised even such projects can be taken up. I do not mind if you were to approach the OECL or if West Bengal were to approach anybody else and try to

get this one. Probably it could have been considered. But to insist that this project should also be given, I will have to break the entire rule. This will apply to every State in the country. How can I do that? I will explain. I hope, after this clarification my friends from West Bengal will appreciate that that we are doing is in the interests of the people of West Bengal. You want to have the cake and eat it too. That is your attitude. You want that project to be yours. But you do not want to take the responsibility. How can that be done? So, therefore, this is about Bakreshwar Project.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Why not 800 Megawatt ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How long will you take ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will take half an hour tomorrow. (*Interruptions*)

If you extend the time by another 20 minutes, I will finish it today itself.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Now a tempo to speak is there.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : What are you speaking for one hour...(*Interruptions*)...You have been speaking nothings for the last one hour...(*Interruptions*)...It is all useless. It will be good if Mr. Sathe is sent for delivering lectures.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In the Business Advisory Committee we have decided that tomorrow we have to take up Ministry of Agriculture.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Now, I will come to Andhra. Do you want me to deal with every State ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Minister may complete his reply. I think we will extend the time up to that.

[Translation]

18.00 hrs

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Everybody has its own way of appreciating things.

[English]

Many a members have asked, what are the new projects which are in the pipeline which you are going to bring in the coming year. In this year we inducted record power of 5000 Megawatt. With the completion, advancement of the Korba unit, today we have touched, beyond the target we have gone, and we have touched 5000 Megawatts. This has never been achieved in the earlier Plans. In the earlier plans the total fulfilment was about 75 per cent. This is more than one hundred per cent. This, at least, should be a matter for satisfaction and we must compliment the officers and the people who have worked in the field.

Sir, in the Plan, we intend to induct 22,000 MW and Rs. 34,000 crores have been provided for. In addition, as I said repeatedly, there is a gap of about 10,000 MW, and to make up some part of that gap, the Planning Commission and the Prime Minister in his personal initiative, has given us Rs. 8,000 crores more for inducting some more additional capacity. We hope we will be able to induct at least about five to six thousand megawatt capacity more. But advance Plan action must be taken right from now the Eighth Five Year Plan. I would like to mention the projects, which we have identified and which will benefit in the Eighth Plan. We will start working on it right from now. But, the benefit will come only after five to six years, because of the gestation.

S. No.	Project	Installed capacity MW		State
1	2	3	4	5
NORTHERN REGION				
1.	Chamera I (Hydel)	3 × 180	540	Himachal Pradesh
2.	Chamera II (H)	3 × 100	300	Himachal Pradesh
3.	Dulhasti (H)	3 × 130	390	Jammu and Kashmir
4.	URI (H)	4 × 120	480	Jammu and Kashmir
5.	Salal II (H) (I, we have already commissioned)	3 × 115	345	Jammu and Kashmir
6.	Auriya Gas (Thermal)	4 × 100 2 × 100	400 200	Uttar Pradesh
7.	NCR TPS (T)	4 × 210	840	Uttar Pradesh
8.	RIHAND EXTN (T)	2 × 500	1000	Uttar Pradesh
9.	G.T. Dadri (T)	4 × 100 plus 2 × 100	400 200	Uttar Pradesh
10.	ANTA GAS (T)	2 × 100 plus 1 × 130	200 130	Rajasthan
11.	RAPP (NUCLEAR) (Ext)	2 × 235	470	Rajasthan
12.	Rajasthan Lignite (T)	2 × 120	240	Rajasthan
13.	Yamunanagar (T)	4 × 210	840	Haryana

1	2	3	4	5
WESTERN REGION				
1.	Kawas Gas (T)	4 × 100	400	Gujarat
	plus	2 × 100	200	
2.	Kakarpar (N)	2 × 235	470	Gujarat
3.	Vindhyachal Extn. (T)	2 × 500	1000	Madhya Pradesh
4.	Chandrapur (T)	2 × 500	1000	Maharashtra
SOUTHERN REGION				
1.	Ramagundam Extn (T)	2 × 500	1000	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Neyveli II (T)	4 × 210	840	Tamil Nadu
3.	Neyveli I/II	3 × 210	630	Tamil Nadu
4.	Kayamkulam (T)	2 × 210	420	Kerala

Sir, in Kerala, actually the project report was prepared by us. They could not prepare even the project report. We said, we will give a Thermal plant and we will also link coal from Talcher and bring it.

One gentlemen has said that we should be allowed to import coal from Australia. He said, if you are allowing import of coal for steel plant, why not for power plant. The difference is coking coal. Steel requires coking coal which may be with very low ash content, That is why, we are forced to import, because our coking coal has high ash content. Our Indian coal is excellent for power and it is called 'power coal', and our Talcher belt will be able to supply power for all these coals. (Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : Who said this ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That gentlemen was not from Congress. I do not know to which party he belongs. CPM.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : It was because of the Congress Government there that we have been put to this difficulty, and there is no power now.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will give you more power.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : We want power. You give assurances.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, we do not differentiate. Honestly this is one Government which never uses political consideration. We always see how the people interests can be served.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : I want a definite answer from you.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will give the answer.

Your Minister of Power and the Chief Minister, Mr. Nayanar, came to me and said : "We are in difficulty. Please give us some power from the unallocated share either from Ramagundam or Neyveli or from wherever you can." I went to the Government of Maharashtra and said: "You have surplus power. Our power station at Ramagundam has been tied up because Andhra which used to be surplus at one stage, because of fall in the hydel power, is short of power. We have to supply them also. Therefore, will you please spare some power for Kerala."

Maharashtra Government agreed and it was passed through the grid to Kerala, for which he has sent a letter of thanks to us. The question is that we want to go to their help. But permanent solution will be by two methods. One, you should have a nuclear plant and another is, you should have a thermal plant. So, both these proposals we are supporting although nuclear power is not under my Ministry. This will balance thermal power with their hydel power and help the Kerala State.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Can you give a time-bound programme? Will you include it in the Seventh Plan and do it?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is cleared. Kayamkulam project has been cleared by us. Details have to be made by you. Your Chief Minister approached me and said: "We cannot do this, we do not have the money, will you do it?" I said: "All right, I will do it on the same proposals as I gave to the West Bengal Government." The Chief Minister readily agreed to that proposal. He is unlike the West Bengal Chief Minister although they belong to the same party. He agreed but the West Bengal Chief Minister does not agree. That is the sad part of the story.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Have you taken an assurance from the Chief Minister of Kerala that they will pay all the bills of MSEB in time, because the Karnataka State is also in arrears?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have done that...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : So, I take it that it has been cleared and it will be included in the Seventh Plan!

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I prepared the project for you. You must get other things done—clearance and so many others things. So, it is subject to clearance and so many other things.

Now I take eastern region. Bihar

Mainthou 3×210 420 MW Bihar/DVC, Bokar B Extn—2×210 420 Bihar/DVC. It will be shared by the Region. North Karmapura—people were saying that so much coal is there. What are you doing for North Karmapura? So I said: All right, we will put in North Karmapura 2×500—a super thermal power station. These are the projects in Bihar.

In West Bengal, the projects are—Farakha II 2×500 1000 MW.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It is not for West Bengal alone.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : You will share the power. Why are you so much selfish? You want everything for yourself. So, beggars should not be choosers.

Farakha III 1×500, Majia 3×210

Orissa—Talcher 2×500 1000—already cleared.

AN HON. MEMBER : When is it coming, Sir?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is coming. Certain preliminaries are to be done, but it will start in this Plan itself. Don't worry.

Then, there is the Rangit hydel project in Sikkim with 3×20 MW units, that is, 60 MW.

In North-Eastern region, there is the Kathalguri project with 6×30 plus 3×30 MW units, that is, nearly 270 MW.

So, Sir, these are the projects....

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : What about the 9×110 MW. Srisaillam Left Bank hydel power-house?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Srisaillam project has also been approved by us. Certain formalities are to be completed. If those things are completed, we will clear that also...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : What will happen to Koyalgaro ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As regards Koyalgaro, the matter is unfortunately in the High Court about the land acquisition case. I am taking up the issue of land acquisition now. If we really want the coal industry to grow—or for that matter any Central project—we must be very clear about what we want to do. Do we want to over-employ than the complement required in a project and make it uneconomical? Supposing in a mine—and this is with reference to Sonepur Bazari which is pending from Sixth Five Year Plan—I am going to invest from the Central resources Rs. 700 crores in that one area for coal mining. Where are we stuck? I need only about 400 workers for that particular mine. But what the people are saying is that we must employ one member from the family of every single land oustee. The moment they know that a particular coal mining is going to come, they distribute the land, so that every person has at least half an acre, and then they come and say: "Now give one job." One job on an average means Rs. 2,000 per month. Now just see that if 3,000 land oustees are there and if I am forced to employ one person per land oustee, will any Communist economist tell me whether that coal mine will at all be profitable?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How many land losers are there, tell us.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : There are about 1,000 land losers. That is why I tell you I am making a national proposal for this Parliament to consider. I said that look, what are the people going to lose in their net income. What were they earning from that land? Let the State Government tell me by certificate that so and so, who had one acre, half an acre, or two acres of land, was earning so many rupees net per annum and per month—Rs. 200, Rs. 300 or whatever they want to say. Let them decide arbitrarily. I give full power to them. Let them decide what was his monthly income, and I will ensure that, that family member all his life, will get that much every month by money-order from my coal company. And this will be in

addition to the compensation that we give for land, this will be in addition to the compensation that we give for the house and for everything else. I am also willing to give some assistance for rehabilitation if the State Government comes forward. Even with this proposal my coal mining will become economical. Is this an unjust proposal? After making this proposal also, the West Bengal Government has not yet agreed, with the result that for more than two-three years, Sonepur Bazari oustees' problem is not solved. I have not got the land and I cannot start the coal mine. Who is the loser?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sonepur Bazari is not the only problem. There are so many other projects pending for acquisition of land.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This is poor people's money of Rs. 6,000 crores which has been put in coal industry. And what is the result? There is no generation of surplus. People go on strikes. Everybody asks for more. But no more in production, no more growth, in productivity are taking place. How can you run this country and build this country? Please tell me. This is what I am trying to plead with this House. If in the infrastructure itself we get struck up, do not produce, we do not produce economically, how will you build this nation? How will you build resources? Every Ministry, when they come in Demand, asks more money. What is more money? Are you going to print notes? Money or wealth is good. Unless you produce goods and unless more people produce more goods, that is where social justice, economic justice will come and that can happen only if you produce infrastructure economically and cheaply. This is all I have to say on this, Sir. One point I would like to make here.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What about participation?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have said that so many times.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has said that so many times. He can say it so many times and you can also put the questions so many times.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, I will tell my new formula in the end. Sir, I want to take up the non-conventional sources of energy. Sir, I honestly feel that we know our limitations in this country with regard to our conventional sources of energy. We know the cost of producing one megawatt power. Today with all the limited resources, even if I were double the conventional energy in the next ten years, we will need more than one lakh crores of rupees for investment. Sir, please bear with me when I tell you that in spite of this, today the per capita availability of power is only about 180 kilowatt hour as compared to 8000 KWH in Europe, 14,000 KWH in Sweden, 10,000 KWH in the USA. Sir, in the world outside with whom you want to compete, there is so much gap. Even this is a misnomer in the rural areas.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This is the achievement of your Government.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This is the achievement of the nation. Whatever we have achieved, even if it is less, we must accept it. So, let us not scoff at it. You have not done better in West Bengal. So, let us be honest ourselves. Even if we double it, we will be about 350 or 400 Kilowatt hour, at the most. What will be the gap? The only solution of the power problem of India lies in utilisation of the perennial renewal sources of energy, mainly the Solar energy. That is why I said 'saur urjha' is the real sources and we have plenty of Sun light. Today it is due to technological development, photo-voltaic and amorphous silicon and other things, the cost has comparatively come down. It is not commercial on par with the thermal power cost. But if you take the delivery cost in a remote place in Rajasthan, if you exclude the cost of transmission lines, railway transport of coal, coal mines and all that, even then today it becomes economical. No power is costlier than any other power. Therefore, we are thinking of setting up 30 megawatt pilot plant based on solar energy in Rajasthan. I believe we should encourage the young scientists, young technocrats of this country whole-heartedly to have a break-through in science and technology. Get it from anywhere in the

world. World knowledge has no geographical barrier. Get it and make an advance, put some additional investment into this here, I want the Power Finance Corporation and I want to say in this Parliament again and again that we must invest more in this sector. If I am just investing one hundred crore rupees per annum in all the non-conventional energies like solar, wind, bio-gas, bio-mass and everything, what miracle can we achieve? I really beg of this House to bear with me and to support this idea that if I have confidence in the young scientists of our country, that they will find a way, they will have a break through, that the day you have a break through in the solar energy, that will be the salvation of this country. This country then will lead the world and without energy you cannot do it. The same is the scope in respect of tidal energy. We are trying to see the scope for tidal energy, wind energy—20,000 MW is the scope. We want a balanced approach, an integrated approach to energy, integrated energy which is the basis of all life—integration—and this should be an integrated approach to totally of all our planning, all our economy particularly beginning with the infrastructure area like energy. You ask me what is the formula. I will give you the formula. In my book I gave the formula, Trimurti—participatory in democracy of all those who contribute, let them equally participate so that nobody exploits anybody else. This was my proposal. For Government, I am giving a simple formula now.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : We cannot execute it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I call it 'pertinence of ACA factor'—Authority, Continuity and Accountability. From Administration in Government to all public sector every one, if we have just these three elements you introduce them in this country I tell you, you will have a small revolution in this country brought within the democratic framework. Democracy does not mean lack of discipline. In fact democracy needs voluntary discipline even more than any other authoritarian system where discipline is imposed, and that is why I will plead with all Members from all sides to think of this if you want to build

this country instead of pulling each other's legs, scoring debating points, all the time wasting our energy—how much energy we waste every day on futile issues? Instead of doing that, if you do concentrate your mind and attention on nation-building activity and programme, I think we would have solved the problem of this country and served our country. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What happened to Hogehakkal project? Mr. Minister, you have very conveniently escaped from me. You forget about my constituency, regarding the Hogennakkal project.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will give special consideration for it. (*Interruptions*)

I shall now put the Demands for Grants

relating to the Ministry of Energy to vote.

The question is :

“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 to 21 relating to the Ministry of Energy.

The motion was adopted.

Demands for grants, 1988-89 in respect of the Ministry of Energy voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of demand for Grant voted by House on 18th March, 1988		Amount of Demand for Granted voted by the house	
(1)	(2)	(3)		(4)	
Ministry of Energy					
		Rvvenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenues Rs.	Capital Rs.
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	46,87,00,000	2,08,00,000

18.22½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fifty-second Report

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, I beg to present the Fifty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

THE DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11 p.m.

18.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, April 7, 1988/ Chaitra 18, 1910 (Saka)