

[Sh. Shyam Bihari Misra]

of Ganga has become coloured and polluted.

Due to the polluted Ganga water an acute crisis of drinking water has arisen in the villages situated on the banks of the river. The villagers are running from place to place in search of drinking water. This problem may take a serious turn during the summer season.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to make an inquiry to trace out the source of polluted refuse being flowed into Ganga. A check should be put to it and the water of Ganga. A check should be made pollution free. Alongwith this the government should also ensure installation of India type hand pumps of deep boring in more numbers in villages alongside the river and in the city of Kanpur so as to solve their problem of drinking water.

**(vi) Need for proper conservation of the forts in Sasaram Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN ( Sasaram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my constituency Sasaram is an important place from historic point of view. There are many historic and religious monuments like 'Shershah ka Roza,' 'Rohtas Quila', Shergarh, Salimshah ka Roza, Tarachandi, Dhuan Kund, Mandeshwari Mandir, in this area. Most of the people are not aware of these monuments. Necessary funds are not being spent on the maintenance of these monuments.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to establish tourist centres around these historic forts and religious places and review the money allotted and the work

being done for the conservation of forts.

**(vii) Seed to fix minimum Support price for agricultural produce and ensure adequate purchases by Government agencies**

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Cultivators and farmers throughout the country are facing a crisis as there are no buyers of agricultural products, either cereals or cash crops in the market. The production of all items of agricultural crops has increased considerably due to good monsoon. Central Government has also increased the minimum support price. However, the Government agencies are not entering into the markets to the desired extent and the target of procurement has not been fixed.

As a result, the poor and marginal sections of the farmers are compelled to undertake distress sale and incur heavy losses as the prices have fallen below the minimum support price. High rise in input costs also added to their losses.

In Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana coarse variety foodgrains like jawar, bajra and maize have gone down below the minimum support price. In Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Haryana, the prices of edible oil, seed-groundnut, mustard and sunflower have gone down and there are no buyers.

Even Basmati paddy is being sold at Rs. 4/- per kilo in Tarai region of Uttar Pradesh.

In West Bengal, the price of potato has come down to Rs. 70/- per quintal which is below minimum support price.

The whole of agricultural sector is facing a crisis which needs immediate intervention by Government agencies in the market. Big traders are waiting for further fall of prices as they know that they are the only

Puyers and the record production of all items would compel the farmers to sell their produce at a throw away price.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take urgent remedial measures so that the minimum support price is guaranteed for all items of agricultural produce by ensuring necessary adequate purchases by government agencies.

14.40 hrs

STATUTORY RESOLUTION DISAPPROVAL OF NATIONAL THERMAL POWER CORPORATION LIMITED, THE NATIONAL HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED AND THE NORTH-EASTERN ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS) ORDINANCE

AND

NATIONAL THERMAL POWER CORPORATION LIMITED, THE NATIONAL HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED AND THE NORTH-EASTERN ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS) BILL CONTD

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Anil Basu was on his legs . He may continue his speech.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : On the last Friday while speaking on the proposed Bill I tried to impress upon the government that through this proposed legislation the power sector of our country is going to be surrendered to the foreign multinational and to the World Bank. While Shri George Fernandes was speaking on this subject, the hon. Power Minister, Shri Salve interrupted and I would like to quote him. I will quote from the Lok Sabha proceedings dated

the 12 th March , 1993, page 6817. He said:

" kisi officer ka nam Bekar unko demoralise karne ka koi matlab nahi hota. "

He said that none of the bureaucrats is responsible. That is very good. May I remind Shri Salve that there are two sides of the coin. We know there are bureaucrats who are honest, dedicated and loyal. But I think Shri Salve would agree with me that there is also a section of bureaucrats who are not honest; who are not dedicated and who are not loyal. If we make the comparison between the two sides; for instance if we make the comparison between Shri Salve, the present Minister of Power and Shri Kalpnath Rai, his predecessor or if we make a Comparison between Shri Rangayya Naidu and Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, where will we arrive?

To speak of Bureaucrats, I would like to remind Shri Salve the case of Shri Krishnamurthy. He was awarded Padma Bhushan. I would like to know; why he was arrested; why he was jailed and why some officers of a very high calibre was withdrawn from the leading public sector organisation. So, there are both sides of the coin. I think it is too much for the Minister to advise us about the honesty and integrity of bureaucrats.

I will give you some examples which will show that is the Power Sector of our country there is a planned effort to loot the country in the name of development. Take the case of the 800 KV transmission line for which a deal is going to be finalised with the World Bank. This U.S. dollar is a 300 million World Bank finance project in Krishanpur - Moga sector. But the government has decided in favour of 800 KV Transmission line which would not at all be needed in the coming 20 years.

Then why have you gone in for 800 KV transmission line? The indigenous technology and the indigenous equipment that are available for 400 KV transmission line are good enough. That is sufficient to take care