

[Shri K. A. Rajan]

The difficulty is that our thermal power stations are situated long away from the pit sheds. That creates a problem. The quality of the coal also creates a problem. The lack of maintenance also creates a problem. Apart from all this, the transmission loss in our country is greater than any international standard, if you take any international standard if you estimated assessment is that if we are able to reduce one per cent transmission loss we will be able to save Rs. 20 crores a year. There is a report in which this has been stated. Apart from all these things, our Minister has been making so many statements. I am sorry to say that he has been groping in the dark in running the whole thing, because after he came into power he made a statement regarding power generation. He is thinking in terms of allocating it to the private sector. It has not been the practice in this country in the larger interest of the nation and also the policy of the government, the industrial policy of the government. So, I would like to know from the Minister what is the position now because he has been shifting his position very often.

The second pronouncement that he made was that every authority, electricity authority, whether it is a state electricity authority or some other, will come under one central authority. I could not understand what is the fascination for a central authority for everything. What is happening in DVC; it has been working under the central authority. What is happening in Delhi, under the very nose of the Centre? A central authority cannot solve the problem. It was reported in the Press also that in the Consultative Committee the Minister was saying: I am thinking in terms of a central authority. Will it solve the problem? Central authority is not the problem. The overall strategy regarding power generation is drifting and the country is going to shambles. That is

not only my view. On going through the report of the study group I find that our country has to depend on hydel power. We are having only forty per cent. A survey of various all India projects shows that 253 schemes are lying untapped.

MR. SPEAKER: I think it is one O'clock now. The House will have recess till 2 O'clock for lunch.

13.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at five minute past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—
Contd.

PROCLAMATION REVOKING THE PRESIDENTS RULE IN CERTAIN STATES

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Proclamations (Hindi and English versions) under article 356(3) of the Constitution:—

(1) Proclamation dated the 6th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Rajasthan, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 291(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-802/80]

(2) Proclamation dated the 7th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Gujarat published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 292(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 7th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-803/80]

(3) Proclamation dated the 7th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Punjab, published in Notification No. GSR 293(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-804/80]

(4) Proclamation dated the 8th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Bihar, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 303(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-805/80].

(5) Proclamation dated the 9th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Madhya Pradesh, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 305(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-806/80]

(6) Proclamation dated the 9th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Maharashtra, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 306(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-807/80]

(7) Proclamation dated the 9th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th

February, 1980 in relation to the State of Orissa, published in Notification No. GSR 307(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-808/80]

(8) Proclamation dated the 9th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Tamil Nadu, published in Notification No. GSR. 308(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 1980. [Placed in Library See No. LT-809/80]

(9) Proclamation dated the 9th June, 1980 issued by the President under clause (2) of article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 17th February, 1980 in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 309(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-810/80].

STATEMENT RE. AGITATION BY A SECTION
OF THE LOCO RUNNING STAFF
OF NORTHERN RAILWAY

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding agitation by a section of the Loco Running Staff of Northern Railway.

Statement

I wish to inform the House about the dislocation in train services for the last two days as a result of sudden stoppage of work by a section of the Loco Running Staff at some places in Delhi Division of the Northern Railway. It is reported that there was some altercation between the passengers and crew of Tilak Bridge—Rohtak shuttle train at Sampla Station on the Delhi Rohtak section on the evening of last Friday, the 6th June, 1980. The passengers alleged that the train was detained to enable some persons to buy liquor from the nearby

[Shri Kamalapati Tripathi]

liquor shop. The crew, however, maintained that the detention was caused by some minor defect in the engine which was to be rectified. The passengers did not allow the train to move and local Railway authorities had to seek help from the Government Railway Police and the Civil Police of Rohtak district in Haryana. It was only on their arrival that the train could be started. The train suffered a detention of four hours. Following this incident the Loco Running Staff with Headquarters at Jind stopped work on the 7th June on the ground that the commuters had misbehaved with them and the S.H.O., G.S.P., Rohtak had also used abusive language and threatened the engine crew. The Railway authorities met the representatives of the Loco Running Staff on the same day and informed them that the matter would be taken up with the State Government and in the meanwhile the trains on the section would be escorted. Despite this, the following day i.e. in the early hours of 8th June some of the Loco Running Staff in Delhi area and a few other places in Delhi Division also resorted to stoppage of work. They even resorted to dropping of fire of shunting locomotives, and immobilising the diesel pilots. They also tampered with control equipment of diesel and steam locomotives. In addition, they threatened the staff who were willing to move the trains. The action of these irresponsible staff has resulted in the cancellation some passenger and goods trains in Delhi Division. While the genuine grievances of the staff are taken care of, cases of sabotage will have to be taken up seriously. I hope good sense will prevail amongst those who have restored to stoppage of work and I would appeal to the staff to return back to work immediately, in the interest of supply of essential commodities at this critical juncture. I have also requested the Chief Minister of Haryana to order a magisterial enquiry into the incident that took place at Sampla Station on the 6th June, 1980 and I assure the House

that whoever is found guilty will be suitably dealt with.

1408 hrs.

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CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—contd.

ACUTE POWER SHORTAGE IN
THE COUNTRY

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. K.A. Rajan to continue his speech.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Here the question is not whether there is a crisis or not. But the question is: what is the remedy for the crisis? The hon. Minister was kind enough to spelt out some short-term remedies. But I want to know the long-term remedies.

Regarding power structure, I insist that in the context of the situation as it is, we can only bank on hydro-power. If we do not do that, we will be in difficulties. Even the Export Committee has very categorically stated that India has to bank on hydro-power. Regarding oil-based power, we have got our own difficulties for which we are finding out the solution. I am very sorry to say that the panacea envisaged by you is to take over all the State Electricity Boards. I do not know how this idea came into your head. What is the position of DVC which is under your control? Most of the States especially West Bengal and Kerala have reacted adversely to his proposal. So, I want to emphasise that this is not the panacea.

This is an industry which covers nearly six lakhs of workers and majority of them are under the public sector. It includes technical and engineering persons also. But the position of industrial relations in the Northern Zone is very bad. Agreements are not being honoured. Victimisation is taking place. Unless you put these things in order, the situation will not improve. In the light of the present situation. We are facing a crisis which is on a vast magnitude. The Silent Valley Project in Kerala where we have already spent about