

17.29 hrs.

RESERVATION OF POSTS IN
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SER-
VICES (FOR BACKWARD CLAS-
SES) BILL*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will
take up Item No. 20—Shri R. P.
Yadav's Bill.

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव (मछैपुरा) :
सभापति जी, मैं आप की आज्ञा से प्रस्ताव
करता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की सेवाओं में
पिछड़े वर्गों के लिये आरक्षण का उपबन्ध
करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाय ।

सभापति जी, इस मुल्क में 52 प्रतिशत
बैकवर्ड क्लासेज के लोग बसते हैं, और यदि
उन के साथ हरिजनों, गिरिजनों तथा अल्प
संख्यकों को मिला दिया जाय तो उन की संख्या
95 प्रतिशत हो जाती है, जो सामाजिक,
शैक्षणिक तथा सांस्कृतिक रूप से पिछड़े
हुए, दबे हुए, कुचले हुए हैं । जब तक इन्हें
आगे नहीं बढ़ाया जायगा

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yadav,
you may continue next time. We
shall now take up Half-an-Hour dis-
cussion.

17.30 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

STATES' VIEWS ON RECOM-
MENDATIONS OF RAJADHAK-
SHA COMMITTEE ON POWER

SHRI B. V. DESAI (Raichur): Mr.
Chairman, Sir, I raise a Half-an-
Hour discussion on the Unstarred
Question dated 18-8-1981 on the re-
commendations of the Rajadhyaksha
Committee on Power. The question
was very simple I tried to elicit some
answers from the hon. Member Pro-
bably thinking that it is an un-starred
question and rather he did not have
the requisite information regarding
that, he did not comply with that.

In fact the Rajadhyaksha Com-
mittee Report on Power is a volu-
minous report. They have taken
so much of pain. One important
thing I would like to mention here is,
it is exactly one year that the Com-
mittee presented its report to the
Government. The report was pre-
sented on 4th September 1980 to the
Government. Fortunately, exactly
to-day as I am standing here, it is
one year past. During this long
period of one year our active Gov-
ernment has been unable to elicit
favourable opinion from different
States. Power is in concurrent list.
States have to be taken into consi-
deration and their favourable opinion
has to be sought. But nonetheless
it is a subject, it is an item which is
of vital concern for the entire nation.

The Committee was appointed
long back. They have made ser-
ious efforts to give its very com-
prehensive recommendations by
going into all the details of power so
far as our country is concerned. So,
as per his reply they have made some
efforts to convene meetings of the
different States, Power Ministers and
Advisory or Consultative Committees
and all that. But nonetheless still
they have not come to any point al-
though it is one year past.

Recommendations are so compre-
hensive that Government need not
hesitate to take action from any point.
They can start right now and they
have given report wherein they have
taken a long range point of view—say
by the turn of century. They have
divided energy into Commercial
and non-commercial. They have
given the details and all that—how
the consumption pattern has developed.
In this connection I would like to
just read a few sentences regarding
commercial and non-commercial
energy and how the pattern of con-
sumption has changed in our country:

“Looking back over the past 25
years some important trends in the

energy mix must be noted. The consumption of commercial energy it consists of power, coal and oil, has grown much faster than the non-Commercial energy as wood, animal dung etc., a large proportion of which has fallen from 68 in 1953-54 to 44 per cent in 1975-76. Again within the commercial energy sector, the consumption of power has grown much faster than coal and petroleum as direct energy source for the economy and its contribution to the total energy consumption has increased from 13 per cent in 1953-54 to 29 per cent in 1978-79."

This commercial energy or the direct energy electric power, again it can be taken from renewable and non-renewable sectors. But one thing is very clear—that unless we take perspective of a long range duration, I do not think we are going to solve our problem. In the same way what they have suggested is—they have a perspective planning. They have made some calculations for the turn of the century. We require a huge generation capacity to be put into action in our country. That also they have given very exhaustive Government ought to have taken some steps within this one year. Twenty years means—1981 is already getting over. I feel with this way of thinking Government is not that serious—to take a longer range—so far power generation is concerned. The requirement of power in our country by the turn of the century has also been given and that is fantastic. So, unless we make special efforts, we will not be able to solve our problem.

For that purpose, I would like to just read a few sentences regarding the country's needs by the turn of the century because energy, irrigation and these things have to be tackled on a long-range basis and the perspective should be at least 10—20 years. This Committee has done a

very exhaustive work on this matter. I quote:

"It has been estimated that by the turn of the century, the country would require a minimum of 400 TWH and possibly 470 TWH of energy in the form of power as compared to the consumption of 84 TWH in 1978-79, almost a five-fold increase. This would require an increase in installed capacity of nearly 110,000 MW in the next 20 years implying an addition to capacity averaging over 5000 MW a year."

Every year, to increase 5000 MW is not a joke, is not that easy, unless the Government takes it up very seriously. From the way the power problem is tackled by the Government, I feel a little bit pessimistic.

Of course, regarding the generation of energy, this country is not endowed with equal distribution of sources of energy. There also, they have given suggestions and the basic postulate which we have to take is the availability of resources, region-wise, so that we may adopt some methods of energy generation where raw material and resources are available.

For this reason, I would like to quote regarding regional distribution of physical resources for power generation. They have taken into account different regions and each region is endowed with certain types of energy resources which may be very usefully made use of. A particular type of energy generation may be taken care of in a particular region. I quote:

"To elaborate, the Eastern Region has nearly 73 per cent of the total coal reserves available in the country. . . ."

Coal is a source of energy for thermal power stations. So, where 73 per cent of coal is available, there

[Shri B. V. Desai]

should be super thermal power stations. Further, I quote:

“...while the Western Region has 19.5 per cent, the Southern region only 7.5 per cent and the Northern Region nil. Similarly, nearly 37 per cent of the hydro-electric potential in terms of energy, according to the reassessment carried out in 1978 by an expert group of the CEA lies in the Northern Region and about 27 per cent in the North-Eastern Region with the Eastern, Western and Southern Regions having 9.5 per cent, 9.5 per cent and 17.2 per cent of the potential respectively.”

Hydel generation and thermal generation are the main sources and where these two resources are not there, we can fall back upon nuclear generation, nuclear power plants. From that point of view, Southern Region requires a nuclear power plant.

The other day when we were discussing about some question put by my hon. friend, Shri Poojary, the hon. Minister was good enough to announce that there was a proposal of the Southern Region. Anyway, wherever these two sources of resources are not there, nuclear power generation can be started although it is a little bit costly.

In this connection, I would like to mention that in the long run what they have suggested is, unless the Centre comes forward with a little bit of more aggressive type of work and try to take initiative in power generating and controlling it, it is not going to solve the problem. When we take up resources region-wise, there is so much of disparity and, if we take up State-wise, it is still worse. Therefore, power generation, control and distribution cannot be taken up State-wise and we cannot solve the

problem. The basic thing is that we take up region-wise. Power generation, control and distribution system should be taken up region-wise. There should be a national grid and all other things.

From this point of view, they have suggested that at least by the turn of the century, 45 per cent of power generation in this country should be controlled by the Central Government so that they should have an effective say in the distribution and in some States, when there is a deficiency, they should come forward in that regard.

I do not want to take much time. But I would like the Hon. Minister to answer my question regarding what effective steps the Central Government is going to take.

I am reminded of one Call Attention on the Floods and Droughts. I just suggested that from a long-range point of view, to off-set both these calamities in our country, we should think of longer perspective, as suggested by some of the companies like the Dastur and Co. Our Hon. K. L. Rao, who was the Minister had suggested the Ganga-Kaveri link. Likewise, Dastur suggested Garland Canal. I just suggest that these are the things on which they have got a longer perspective and we should think of starting these things right from today. But, unfortunately, it was not taken seriously and the Hon. Agriculture Minister had put me another question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think your main thrust has to be “What the Union Government should do in the face of many of the State Governments keeping mum and not replying to this Government's letters and reminders”. That should be the main idea.

SHRI B. V. DESAI: I am just coming to that. The Kaveri question has to be settled. Likewise, States

should be made to understand that it is in their own interest that this should be taken care of by the Centre because resources are not there. The financial constraints are there with the States. But, if they are made to understand that it is in their own interest, definitely they will come round and, with the majority of States with our own Government, I think that it will not be difficult for the Hon. Minister to get them round and see that a start is made from the larger perspective. Therefore, I would like to know what action the Hon. Minister is going to take. He has to see that the States are convinced regarding this aspect, that is, the longer perspective and short-term items. I tell the Hon. Minister that as per the report in the Press, the Prime Minister has also intervened in this, I do not know how far it is correct. I would like to elicit the information from the Hon. Minister in this regard also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that the Minister has come prepared.

SHRI B. V. DESAI: Yes, he has come prepared. I should say that. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): The Hon. Member has made many valuable suggestions. As you are aware, the present Government has been making a massive effort to raise power generation in the country. The other day when I was answering a Call Attention here, I had given certain figures which I would like to repeat that the power generation in the last one year has tremendously gone up and there is a marked improvement in the power generation. Now, for example, from October, 1980 to March, 1981, the increase has been to the extent of 13 per cent over comparative figure of 1979-80. Similarly, in April-July, 1981, the increase has been as high as 17 per cent as compared to April-July, 1980,

and out of which 21 per cent has been thermal generation which is a great achievement and it has been possible because the present Government has been taking steps to raise the generation. We are taking short-term and long-term steps. The short-term steps are that we are trying to improve the existing power stations. We are sending our engineers to each power house in the country owned by the States; they check up their problems, find solutions and give us the reports. Since October, 1980, more than 30 power stations in the country have been inspected and reports have been given; we have also suggested the remedies. This is one of the reasons why power generation has gone up in the last one year.

In the long-term, we are adding about 20,000 megawatts—19,666 megawatts—of power within the Sixth Plan itself. This, we hope, will match the demand, what is required in the country. This is the long term perspective. Similarly, we are drawing up plans for the Seventh Plan and we are sanctioning schemes. Our assessment is that, as the hon. Member has said, by the turn of the Century, we will have a lakh and odd megawatts—three times the existing capacity. We are drawing up plans accordingly and we hope that we will be able to match the requirements of the country.

The hon. Member specifically referred to the Rajadhyaksha Committee's recommendations. I would like to mention that whatever information we had was given earlier in our reply to the question; no effort was made to avoid giving any answers which were available with us. Certain recommendations relate to the States and certain recommendations relate to the Central Government. So far as the recommendations relating to the Central Government are concerned, we have been taking action; in fact, action has started on the main points. I would like to mention this; for example, the policy of additional role

[Shri Vikram Mahajan]

of the Centre in power generation. Taking that recommendation of the Rajadhyaksha Committee into account, we have started construction of super thermal power stations at the pithead. At present we are constructing four of them in each region—in the Northern region, Singrauli; in the Eastern region, Parakka; in the Central and Western regions, Obra in the Southern region, Ramagundam; and in Neyveli in Tamil Nadu, we are doubling its capacity. These super thermal power stations will transmit power to their own regions. The original concept was that each State will be self-sufficient. But we have found that it is difficult to transport coal. That is why, we have initiated this policy of construction of super power thermal stations at the pitheads. They will transmit power to their regions. That is the purpose. We are constructing hydro stations in the Central sector in different parts of the country. The power will be transmitted from these stations to the deficit States. So, the purpose is that the Centre will play a greater role in power generation, supplementing the efforts of the State Governments. This is how we intend meeting the requirements of the country. With passage of time, more and more Central role will be there in the generation of power. There is a massive effort. I hope that, after some time, this particular aspect, the Central role in power generation, will assume a major part; if not 45 per cent, near about that we will be able to achieve. This is our assessment. For example, in the Sixth Plan, as I have mentioned, we will be adding about 20,000 megawatts; in the Seventh Plan we hope to add about 28,000 megawatts; in the next Plan, another 30,000 megawatts; like that, we hope to achieve a lakh megawatts by the turn of the Century.

So far as the nuclear stations are concerned, I have given an answer earlier that we are constructing a nuclear station in the southern zone, in Kalpakkam, and we hope that

power will start flowing from that before this Plan ends. Similarly, we would like to mention that we are trying to have a national grid so that power from surplus States is transmitted to the deficit States. That is our objective, but here we need some support from the State Governments. As I said earlier, in the different conferences which we have had in the different regions, we have specifically mentioned about the Rajadhyaksha Committee report and in fact this was one of the main points in different regional committees which we have had and the States have not come forth with their views as to what they would like to do. As you are aware, electricity is on the Concurrent List and I have mentioned earlier, part of the recommendations deal with the Central Government and part with the State Governments.

So far as the recommendations which deal with the Central Government are concerned, I would like to just mention them in a summary manner. One major recommendation deals with the power generation for private utilisation. What is the policy? That policy is the same which we were following before. That is on a selective basis we will give captive units. Second is regarding organisation and management and role of the Central Government and regional stations and so forth. Now, we are considering it and we are developing this. It involves a lot of financial resources. At present we are pursuing this line. Then with regard to nuclear power, this is basically concerned with the Atomic Energy Commission. We have asked them to send their comments.

Then restructuring of State Electricity Boards—this concerns the States and we have asked for their comments. Then Rural Co-operatives and their functioning and so forth. I only said the Rural Electricity Corporation which is under the Ministry of Energy is encouraging it and already we have sanctioned 22

schemes. Out of the 22, 6 have already started functioning.

Then the question deals with staffing of Regional Electricity Boards and CEA, filling up of posts, selection methods and Chairman—what should be their role, how they should be selected and an all India service of Power Engineers, common entrance examination for the engineers and so on and so forth. In these things the States have also to co-operate and we have sent them the report and asked for their comments. Some have asked for more time and none so far has, to our knowledge, given us a complete picture of their views on these various aspects....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, why don't you try to hold a conference of Energy Ministers?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: I am coming to that. As I said we have held in different regions—that is in the western region, northern region, eastern region and southern region—these meetings regarding the Rajadhyaksha Committee report and in these conferences the States wanted more time to study them and we have given them time and the Minister stated the other day that he is calling another conference of the State Ministers for Power to get their final views so that we can take a decision.

SHRI B. V. DESAI: Not a single State has given?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: On the major recommendations. But on some minor things they are willing. Major recommendations deal with the restructuring of the State Electricity Boards, the question of common grid, the question of ownership of high voltage transmission lines, the Central Government for more optimum utilisation of the power structure, then the role of the Central Government in the region and the investment of the Central Govern-

ment and their financial assistance which they require and how far we can carry it out, captive generation and whether it should be incorporated in certain plants and on all these they have to send their views. Then also on how the inter-State water problems can be sorted out, the time limit, then the financial management and all that. For this purpose, we have called a meeting of the State Electricity Boards' Chairmen and the Finance Minister presided and the States have still to give us their views in writing. We have told them to give us their views on this particular subject also, that is, tariff and the financial management by the Electricity Boards. On the question of operation of the regional electricity Boards, some States do not have Electricity Boards as such; they are run departmentally. We have suggested to them not to run departmentally. They also should have independent boards.

Then we have asked for the views on the number of Members and how their selection should take place for the Electricity Boards. The question has also been put to them on the separation of generation from the distribution.

There are about 30 to 35 odd recommendations which are of substantive nature on which we have asked them to give their views. They want some more time. Some orally said that they might not agree. At present the position is as I have stated earlier. They will be consulted. The recent conference was held during the last Parliament session. And during this session also, we are likely to have a meeting very soon on this subject. We can have a comprehensive policy on the recommendations made in the Rajadhyaksha Committee's Report. So far as the Central sector is concerned we are going ahead. Some are in the process of being implemented; some are being examined. Very soon, we will take a final decision in so far

(Shri Vikram Mahajan)

as the recommendations dealing with the Central Government are concerned.

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन (वाडमेर) : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने बड़ा खुलासा जवाब दे दिया है,

सभापति महोदय : क्या आपको पूर्ण संतोष है ?

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन : उन्होंने ने काफी संतोषजनक जवाब दिया है। परन्तु प्रश्न यह है कि यदि स्टेट्स अपने कर्तव्यों को पूरा न करें, तो सेंटर इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही करे। सेंटर के पास ऐसी कौन सी शक्ति है, जिस से वह स्टेट्स से काम कराए ? एक वर्ष का अर्सा हो गया है, लेकिन राजाध्यक्ष कमेटो को रिपोर्ट के बारे में राज्य सरकारों को राय अभी तक नहीं आई है। जब यह विषय कानक्रेन्ट लिस्ट में है, तो केन्द्र सरकार को इस बारे में कोई न कोई टाइम लिमिट निर्धारित करना पड़ेगा। हमने छोटे फाइव योअर प्लान को अच्छे तरह से इम्प्लोमेंट करना है। मेरा सुझाव है कि केन्द्र सरकार छः महीने का टाइम दे दे, जिस के अन्दर सब राज्य सरकारों को जवाब देने के लिए कहा जाए, भले ही इस के लिए रिजिनल पावर मिनिस्टर्स कॉन्फ्रेंस की बैठक दुबारा को जाए। इसी प्रकार राज्यों से जवाब लेना चाहिए।

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पावर मिनिस्टर्स की कॉन्फ्रेंस में कितने स्टेट्स ने नेशनल ग्रिड के खिलाफ राय दी है। जो इन्टर-स्टेट पावर डिस्प्यूट्स हैं, उन के कारण बहुत से स्टेट्स को, विशेषकर राजस्थान को, नुकसान उठाना पड़ रहा है। केन्द्र सरकार के पास इतनी शक्ति नहीं है कि वह उन इन्टर-स्टेट डिस्प्यूट्स को हल कर सके। क्या सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में कोई लेजिस्लेशन लावेगी और यदि आवश्यक हो, तो क्या वह कास्ट -

ट्यूशन में एम्बेडेड करेगी, ताकि इन्टर-स्टेट डिस्प्यूट्स हल हो सकें ? इस प्रकार के डिस्प्यूट्स ग्रारविटेशन के लिए ट्रिब्यूनल को दे दिए जाते हैं, जिन में पन्द्रह बीस साल लग जाते हैं। मंत्री महोदय स्पष्ट करें कि इस सम्बन्ध में सेंटर की पालिसी क्या है ? राजाध्यक्ष कमेट की दो रोकमेंडेशन इस प्रकार हैं :—

“In planning and implementing rural electrification programme, special care must be taken to see that the small farmers share fully in the benefits.

“Schemes such as giving a light point free to small farmers and landless labourers, as is done in Karnataka should be introduced by other States.”

ये रोकमेंडेशन स्माल फार्मर्स के लिए लाभदायक हैं। स्माल फार्मर्स को अभी तक कोई लाभ नहीं पहुंचा है। बिजली का जितना भी लाभ लिया है, वह लैंडलाइसे, बड़े कार्तकारों और पूजापति कार्तकारों ने लिया है। स्माल फार्मर्स के पक्ष में जो रोकमेंडेशन हैं, उन्हें कार्यान्वित करने के सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकारों को भी इयटी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या केन्द्र सरकार उन्हें प्रोत्साहित कर के अथवा उन्हें बाध्य कर के इन रोकमेंडेशन को लागू करेगी।

18.00 hrs.

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं मैं जानना चाहता हूँ।

एक बात विशेष तौर से मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि कालिग घटेशन पर जब डिस्कशन हुआ था उस समय मंत्री महोदय ने जो बयान दिया था उस में यह स्पष्ट कहा गया था कि राजस्थान विद्युत् की दृष्टि से सरप्लस है। मंत्री महोदय का यह नोशन बिल्कुल गलत है। मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि राजस्थान में विद्युत् की स्थिति सबसे अधिक है। अब तीन साल से वहाँ अकाल पड़ रहा है

समाप्त महोदय : आप एक ही प्रश्न करें।

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन : एक यही महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न पूछ कर मैं समाप्त कर दूंगा। इस के विषय और कोई प्रश्न नहीं पूछूंगा।

राजस्थान में बिजली की स्थिति खराब है और विशेष तौर से हाइड्रो की, गांधी सागर, राणा प्रताप सागर आदि में पानी का बहाव नहीं हुआ है और दूसरे, जो ग्रन्थ बिजली घर हैं वे बराबर बन्द होते रहते हैं, भाखरा से हमें पुरा शेर नहीं मिल रहा है तो इन सब दृष्टिकोणों से बिजली की जो खराब स्थिति वहाँ है उस के कारण किसानों को एक बंटे से ज्यादा बिजली नहीं मिलती, औद्योगिक प्रोडक्शन बिल्कुल नष्ट हो रहा है, इन दो वर्षों के अन्दर स्थिति इस प्रकार की हो गई है कि अधिकांश उद्योग नष्ट हो चुके हैं, करोड़ों रुपये की हानि हुई है, ऐसी स्थिति में आप यह कैसे बताते हैं कि राजस्थान बिजली के मामले में सफल है? मैं आप से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सिविल फाइव ईयर प्लान में किस तरह से राजस्थान की विद्युत् स्थिति को आप सुदृढ़ करेंगे? इस सम्बन्ध में विशेष तौर से आप हमें बतलाने की कृपा करें।

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : सभापति जी,

सभापति महोदय : नहीं, आप का नाम नहीं है, आप नहीं बोल सकते हैं।

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : मैं बोलने के लिए नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं इस पर एक निवेदन कर रहा हूँ . . .

सभापति महोदय मुझे मालूम है आप ने नाम दिया था लेकिन आप का नाम नहीं आया है ?

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : इस के बावजूद भी मैं नहीं बोलूंगा। . . (व्यवधान) . . मेरा नाम बिलेट में नहीं आया है . . . (व्यवधान) . . सुनिए तो, मेरा तो यह कहना है, एक महत्वपूर्ण बात से कहना चाहता हूँ, आप भले ही इस को परम्परा के रूप में न लें

सभापति महोदय : नहीं, यह सम्भव नहीं है। यह रुझान के खिलाफ है।

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : रुझान इसलिए नहीं आते हैं कि किसी का रोना जाय।

सभापति महोदय : जरा काजिएगा, यह रुझान के विरुद्ध है।

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : इस में आगे के लिए कुछ इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए ताकि हम बोल सकें।

सभापति महोदय : उस के लिए तो जो रुझान कमेटी में हैं उन को कहिए।

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : आप भी एक सानिश्चर मंत्र हैं, आप का ध्यान मैं इस तरह दिवाना चाहता हूँ।

सभापति महोदय : आप स्पोकर्स को लिखिए। . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया : माननीय सदस्य ऐसा नहीं कह सकते हैं कि नौ हाउस का टाइम वेस्ट कर रहा हूँ। ऐसा उन को अधिकार नहीं है। . . . (व्यवधान) . . . वह सभापति जी कह सकते हैं।

सभापति महोदय : मैंने कहा कि आप अध्यक्ष को लिखिए।

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJA-RY (Maugalore): Sir, on industrial revolution in Japan started with a very simple slogan—"Let there be electric light in every Japanese home". But I do not think, Sir, in India it will be ever possible to reach the goal of electrification of every village leave aside that of every home.

- (Shri Janardhana Poojary)

Sir, you know very well that there is acute power shortage in the country and the erratic power situation in the country has gone to the extent of damaging our economy and it had hit hard the industrial development, industrial progress and also the agriculture progress. If I may be permitted to submit in the year 1980-81, 20 hydel projects are held up due to inter-State disputes.

May I know whether the Government is thinking of coming forward with a solution to solve these Inter-State disputes? Secondly, 33 per cent of the projects which were to have been commissioned by June of this year could not be completed. They are still lagging behind schedule. These facts show that we are lagging behind in power generation. Power situation as a whole is not satisfactory. May I know from the Minister whether the power situation in the country is satisfactory or not? When are we going to meet our requirements? Within what period? Sir, you know that the Working Group on National Energy Policy submitted a report in the year 1979. The Rajadyaksha Committee submitted its report on 4th of September 1980. Even then the Minister has not come before Parliament with any White Paper on National Energy Policy. May I know whether it is a fact or not that the Estimates Committee recommended, that your Ministry should come up with a White Paper on National Energy Policy? I may be permitted to submit another thing. He made passing remarks about the recommendations of Rajadyaksha Committee. May I know from the Minister whether the Government has accepted a proposal that power projects should be planned on the basis of a perspective plan of 15 to 20 years because these power projects take very long gestation period? The present situation of having 5 year planning is not suitable for the power sector. So, may I know whether the Minister is going to decide soon

about the pattern of planning to be followed for these power projects. May I know from the Minister another aspect regarding the Central Government's share in the power generation and also to tell us as to what steps are being taken by the Central Government for power generation? May I know whether the Government has examined the question of transfer of the subject of 'Power' from Concurrent to the Central List, because he made some passing remarks about this point? Is the Government going to come up with any Constitutional Amendment so far as aspect is concerned?

Now, coming to the captive power plants, is the Government agreeable to the proposal for the setting up of these captive power plants in the private sector? Will the Government allow these private sector people to start their own captive power plants, if they come up with such proposals, without demanding any financial assistance from public institutions? May I know whether the Government is going to allow the setting up of these power plants in the cooperative sector also subject to the condition that these cooperative sectors should not demand any financial assistance from any public institution?

MR. CHAIRMAN: According to the rule only one question is permitted. There are so many clauses. You just put your question. You have put forward weighty suggestions. Let him consider them.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: He went on passing remarks about certain recommendations. We want specific answers to our specific questions.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: If I have to reply to all these things it will take more than 2 hours. I have to reply within the time-limit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: yes. I agree.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: If he wants, I can read out the entire thing. But it will take a long time.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Now only one question about my State, Karnataka is facing a very severe power shortage and on the last occasion when I had an opportunity to place my views about the nuclear plant; there was a recommendation also that these nuclear plants must be far away from the populated area and they must be far away from the coal belt and hydel projects. Here, Sir, we have got a site in Mangalore. I know that it does not pertain to his Ministry, but as Rajadhyaksha Committee also recommended these things, I am just bringing these to his notice that we have got a site at Mangalore. There are two other sites selected by the Committee appointed in 1956 or 1959. Apart from those sites, whether the Minister will be considering the site at Mangalore? And here we have got strong infrastructure facilities also. Therefore, he may take this into consideration.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, I do not wish to make any speech. I wish to put questions which have been reflected by the answer of the Hon. Minister.

My first question is that is it a fact that Rajadhyaksha Committee suggested that out of 19 State Electricity Boards, only seven are in profit and the rest are in losses; and the losses are up to the year 1978 to the tune of Rs. 15,798 lakhs; and the State Electricity Boards which are in profit are in Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab; and the rest of the Boards are running in debts? We have suggested that the Central Electricity Authority or the Government of India should convene a meeting of those States to find out measures to avoid losses. Moreover, the Venkataraman Committee had suggested 15 years back that the profit should be to the tune of 9.5 per cent on the investment. So, the State Electricity Boards which are running in profit are also not up to that standard. So, my question is what measures has the Government of India or

the Ministry of Energy taken to implement the suggestions which have been given in this respect.

My second submission is that is it a fact that with respect to some of the States, the Rajadhyaksha Committee had suggested that some of the States like Rajasthan and Haryana, who have got no hydel potential, i.e. the hydel projects which are generating the electricity, are not within the control of these States? Take the case of Rajasthan. The Ganga Sagar is not within the control of Rajasthan; Bhakra is not within the control of the State of Rajasthan. We are at the mercy of other States where those projects are generating the electricity. Madhya Pradesh may refuse to give quota; Bhakra may refuse to give quota. And they are doing so and the Committee has suggested in its Report in Chapter I, page 5:

“States like Haryana and Rajasthan, for instance, have virtually no hydel potential which means that while the steady base loads can be met through thermal plants, peak demands pose problems.”

Therefore, I would like to ask, Sir, is it a fact that in the year of 1980, the Rajasthan State has suffered a lot in the agricultural sector as well as in the industrial sector, because of the failure of this hydro-electricity, because there was no Monsoon and there were no rains and no water in the Chambal? Secondly, the other source of generation of energy in Rajasthan is the atomic power plant at Kota. But in respect of this, the Committee has said, “. . . the energy generation at the latter has been below expectations.” Here, ‘latter’ means Kota. In Chapter 4, at page 44, while dealing with power plants, the Committee has said:

“The operation and maintenance standards obtaining in the Tarapur and Rajasthan (Kota) atomic power plants have been fairly satisfactory, although the energy generation at

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

the latter has been below expectations."

Rawat Bhatta was interrupted 19 times. You might have read in the papers today that both the first and second units are out of generation for the last seven days.

My hon. friend Mr. Virldhi Chander Jain was right that even today when there is failure of monsoon and premature break in monsoon in Rajasthan and Haryana, agriculturists are not getting power. Even for two hours a day, the farmers are unable to get power for energizing their pump sets. So, there is no power available in Rajasthan. Keeping this fact in view, will the Minister take other remedial measures and see that power is made available to people in Rajasthan for industrial and other purposes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There should be a limit. You have put so many questions. Let the Minister give the reply. The questions may be important, but there is the time-limit. We have already taken half an hour, plus 20 minutes.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: The Rajadhyaksha Committee has suggested that there should be a change in the concept of Rural Electrification. The change suggested by that committee is this: that till now, electricity was given for diesel pumping sets, but as far as rural areas are concerned, electricity should be available for cottage industries and for other domestic purposes. Has the Ministry of Energy introduced any sort of change in this concept also, so far as rural electrification is concerned?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Many points have been made. I would try to cover them. Some suggestions have also been made.

So far as the inter-state disputes are concerned, we have made this

offer at every regional conference of Power Ministers: "These disputes have been going on for a very long time. If you allow us to construct power stations, and if you carry on your disputes, when you settle them you can back your shares. In the mean time, we will be able to construct the stations, and the nation would gain." This is the offer we have made in all the conferences, to the States. So far, hardly any State has responded. The Ministry of Irrigation has also been making efforts. I hope that both of us at some stage may be able to make a headway.

The offer has been to allow us to construct in the central sector and when they settle up their disputes each one can buy up his own share and whatever power is generated will be given on an *ad hoc* basis and later on they can settle it up who has got more and who has got less. It is a very straight offer. But, unfortunately, hardly any State has come forth.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: You persuade them.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: I have personally talked to many Chief Ministers. I have also written them letters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, it appears that they decided not to be persuaded.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: On the national grid, I have already mentioned that we are working because we have to have enough instruments so that we can transfer power from surplus States to the deficit States, from the central power stations to the States which actually need power. We are keeping a part of the power as a reserve, which we can give to States which at a particular point of time want power for an emergency. This aspect is being taken care of. From each super thermal power station which is in a particular region,

the power has been allocated to each of the States so that we can give them a supplementary help. Similarly, every effort is being made to see that the villages inhabited by weaker sections of society are given their due share in the form of electric lighting and so on. We give special grant to each State for lighting up Harijans Villages and so on. In fact, our Ministry is examining whether we can ourselves electrify certain backward areas, because the States are not coming up to that level. That is the point we are trying to examine.

Thirdly, so far as Rajasthan is concerned, I have mentioned earlier also that the problem of Rajasthan arises only when one of the atomic station goes out of generation. That is the time when the real problem arises. So long as atomic units are giving power, the problem is marginal. But we have been allowing Rajasthan to withdraw more than their share from Bhakra system. In fact we have called a meeting again on Monday to see whether we can give them more power and more water for their crops, if possible. This is being examined on Monday. We have called all the States—Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab to work out whether emergency help can be given to Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana.

So far as electrification in the villages is concerned, some States have achieved 100 per cent electrification, like Punjab, Haryana, Tamilnadu and Kerala; some are achieving higher percentage and some are far beyond. But we hope that within the next 10 to 15 years, every village in the country will be electrified. That is our plan.

So far as slippages are concerned, in certain regions, there have been more slippages in the last one year. The main slippage has been in the eastern region. Now I have a report that during 1980-81 in the nor-

thern region, there had been no slippage, that is in Punjab, U.P., Rajasthan and Haryana. So far as southern region is concerned, there is no slippage except the atomic station. So far as western region is concerned, there is only the slippage of one gas turbine. But the slippages have been basically in the eastern region which include the place where we have a weather control system. So, in the major parts of the country, there has been hardly any slippage; and in one or two cases, there have been minor slippages, for example in the western region and in the southern region.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV:
How to reduce the general losses?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: I am coming one by one. I have noted down all the points.

So far as the Energy policy is concerned, we have a policy which we have drawn up, which aims at conservation of foreign exchange by laying less emphasis on oil. That is the basic policy. I will just read out.

Accelerated development of indigenous conventional sources of energy, which means hydro and thermal; development of new and renewable sources—for which there is a separate department now;—restricting the consumption of oil to the extent possible; promoting the conservation of energy by increasing the efficiency of its utilisation.

These are the basic fundamentals of the new energy policy. I have never claimed that we have achieved a state of perfection so far as power is concerned. I gave out earlier a programme of increasing power generation. Similarly we are having a two-pronged attack. One is meeting the increasing demands. The other

[Shri Vikram Mahajan]

is reducing the gap. We have to reduce the gap every year so that we eliminate shortage. For example in 1979-80 the shortage was 16.1 per cent. It has been brought down to 12.6 per cent in 1980-81. In 1981-82 we hope to bring it down to 9 to 10 per cent. Thus every year we hope to bring down the gap. And our assessment is that by the end of the Sixth Plan we should be able to match the demand and supply. That is the target. And I hope we will be able to achieve that target.

So far as captive generation is concerned, we encourage captive power plants, as a matter of policy, in industries which are heavy power consuming industries. We do not restrict them or say that they cannot take financial help from other sources. We encourage them having captive power plants in industries like steel, aluminium. Even in industries which are public utility services like cement we are encouraging and in fact every industry which comes to us for captive power plant is encouraged. We do not stop them. So far, to my knowledge, since the coming into power of the new Government, we have hardly refused anyone if they have asked for captive generation.

As hon. Member mentioned we should have a long term plan and I have already given details that we hope to generate about one lakh megawatt by the turn of the century. The C.E.A. is the organisation of the Central Government, and it is preparing a comprehensive 50 year development plan for taking advance action. Power cannot be generated in four to five years. We should have a long term plan. Thermal takes five to six years and hydel takes seven to ten years. We have to draw up a plan to concise the period

of commissioning and also at the same time to meet long term requirements of the country.

Now, so far as Karnataka is concerned, I would like to inform that our report today is,—I mean since last five to ten days—Karnataka is meeting its requirements. So far as atomic energy is concerned, I think the question should be addressed to the Ministry of Atomic Energy.

It is true that many State Electricity Boards are running in losses and as far as I know what the hon. Member is saying is correct and that is why I mentioned earlier that a meeting was called sometime back—I think last month or two months back when all these Chairmen were called and we gave them certain suggestions. The Finance Minister presided over the meeting. We have asked them to send their comments on tariffs, why the returns are very low and on all these aspects we have asked for their views, and after they have given their views, as I said, we are calling another meeting soon after Parliament is over. It is to help the States which are having no resources of their own, that we have drawn a special central sector, and for example new central projects in hydel, thermal whichever are coming, each State is being given the benefit and to Rajasthan we are giving special treatment so that the problems are sorted out and in fact as an emergency measure we have called on Monday a meeting of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan representatives to see how best we can give them more water and more power in this period, i.e. the next fifteen days to one month when the actual crop is there. So, that is how we intend helping the State. I hope that more and more central projects are coming and we are trying to prevent slippages this year. We hope that as far as possible we will succeed.

I thank hon. members for giving useful suggestions. I will examine all the suggestions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 11 A M on Monday.

18.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Monday, September 7, 1981/Bhadra 16, 1903 (Saka)