

(3) A copy each of Notifications Nos. S.O. 1967 to 1986 and 1994 to 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 1978, regarding exemption under section 10 (23C) (iv) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 to certain Associations/Organisations, under section 296 of the said Act. [Placed in library. See No. LT-2461/78].

12.06 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER  
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**POWER CRISIS IN THE COUNTRY**

श्री रामानन्द सिधारी : (बक्सर)  
महोदय, मैं अखिलमन्त्रीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर ऊर्जा मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस बारे में एक बक्तव्य दें :—

“देश में बिजली की बिहार तथा मध्य प्रदेश में, बिजली संकट पैदा होने, जिस से उद्योग बन्द हो गये हैं और कृषकों को कठिनाइयाँ हो रही हैं।”

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN):** Recently, there has been improvement in the power supply position all over the country and power cuts/restrictions have either been completely lifted or relaxed in the States which previously experienced power shortages. There has been an overall increase of 15 per cent in the total generation during April-June, 1978 as compared to the generation during the corresponding period last year.

Coming to the power supply position in the various regions, I would

like to mention that the power position in the Northern Region including Rajasthan and U.P., is now greatly satisfactory. Power cuts in Rajasthan have been completely lifted from 7th July and power cuts in U.P. have also been relaxed and, by and large, only peak load restrictions are in force. In the coming months also Northern Region is expected to be surplus in energy as well as peak requirements for most of the time. This region would be able to assist M.P. and Bihar to some extent.

Coming to the Western Region, the power supply position in Gujarat is comfortable. One unit of 210 MW and another unit of 110 MW is expected to be commissioned at Ukai and Ahmedabad respectively before the end of this year. Maharashtra has been facing some shortage of power and demand/energy cuts are enforced for various categories of consumers. The position is expected to improve considerably after January 1979 onwards with the commissioning of 200 MW units at Nasik & Bhusawal and stabilisation of 200 MW unit at Koradi. The power supply position in M. P. has also improved recently and the demand as well as energy cuts have been reduced. There have, however, been some forced outages of thermal power stations in M.P. resulting in fall in generation. These outages are minor and the generation in the State has already improved.

The position in the Southern Region, except in Karnataka is satisfactory. However, shortages continue to be experienced in Karnataka. Recently there has been some improvement in the availability of power in Karnataka and power cuts have been relaxed from May 1978 onwards.

In the case of Eastern Region there have been unscheduled load sheddings in Bihar. The system has been facing a power deficit due to frequent and prolonged outages of thermal generating sets at the various thermal power stations.

The Central Government has been giving necessary help by way of expertise to diagnose the deficiencies and to suggest remedial measures for improving the performance of various units in that State. Recently, on our request, Orissa, which is surplus in power, has agreed to help Bihar and DVC to the extent of 50 MW each and West Bengal to the extent of 20 MW. With the stabilisation of the new units at Patratu, the power supply position in Bihar is expected to improve considerably. In the case of DVC, the power supply position has been greatly satisfactory with generation at a level of 700 MW. One unit of 120 MW is expected to be commissioned this year. West Bengal, however, continues to face peaking shortage and marginal load shedding is being resorted to in Calcutta area. I am aware that North Bengal continues to be in difficulty because of inadequate assistance from the neighbouring systems. It is hoped that with the commissioning of new units and the improvement in performance of DVC and West Bengal power stations, the power supply position in the State of West Bengal would also improve.

As regards the question of closure of industries and hardships to agriculturists particularly in Bihar and M.P., I would like to mention that the Government have circulated a list of graded priorities to the various States to ensure supply of power to essential consumers. Under these guidelines, power supply to agriculturists is given on priority basis and, as such, normally no power cuts are enforced on the agriculturists, although there may be occasional interruptions in power supply to the rural areas because of breakdowns. In the case of industries, also certain graded priorities have been laid down and efforts are made to supply power to the essential industries.

Hon'ble Members are already aware that some of the thermal power stations in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and M.P. have been facing

some problems because of depleted coal stocks. The coal stock position at the various power stations is being monitored daily at high level and necessary steps are being taken to see that the generation at the power stations is not affected for want of coal.

It has been our endeavour to improve the availability of power by maximising generation from the existing capacity as well as by addition of new capacity. Last Year, we were able to add about 2000 MW of additional capacity. This year, the capacity addition is expected to be still larger. With the addition of new capacities and improvement in the performance of thermal power stations coupled with good monsoons, the power supply position all over the country is expected to improve further, except in some pockets where shortages may continue to be experienced.

श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, गत वर्ष इसी सदन में माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि बिहार में बिजली का संकट नहीं है, और वहां पर बिजली की स्थिति संतोषजनक है। बिहार में लगभग 40 हजार औद्योगिक इकाइयां हैं जिन में लगभग 11 हजार अभी बंद रही हैं और बाकी सब की सब बन्द पड़ी हैं। वहां पर 6 करोड़ रुपये का प्रतिदिन उत्पादन होता था लेकिन अब 6 करोड़ रुपये के स्थान पर बिहार में केवल 2 करोड़ रुपये का उत्पादन हो रहा है जिस के चलते बिहार में करोड़ों रुपये की क्षति प्रति दिन हो रही है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो वक्तव्य दिया है उस से मैं सहमत नहीं हूँ, इसलिए कि युनिवर्सिटियों में, महा-विद्यालयों में और विद्यालयों में जो विद्यार्थी परीक्षाओं में बैठने के लिए पढ़ने की तैयारी करते हैं, उन को भी अपने पढ़ने के लिए रोकाबी नहीं मिल रही है। पटना में लगातार दस, दस और बारह बारह बड़े

[श्री रामानन्द तिवारी]

रोजानी नहीं मिलती है। रांची, बोकारो डालमियानगर और बिहार की राजधानी पटना में बिल्कुल अंधकार है। कमी कमी बारह बारह घंटे लोगों को प्रकाश नहीं मिलता है। बिजली की कमी के कारण बिहार में किसानों की खेती सूख रही है। और बिजली न मिलने के कारण जितने पम्प हैं, वे बेकार पड़े हुए हैं। इस लिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार स्वयं एक पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है और भारत में सब से अधिक पिछड़ा हुआ बिहार है और बिहार की आज यह दुर्गति हो रही है। आपने गत वर्ष कहा था कि बिहार में बिजली का संकट नहीं है और स्थिति संतोषजनक है। अगर संतोषजनक है, तो फिर यह स्थिति क्यों है? माननीय उद्योग मंत्री जी ने भी यह कहा है कि जूट के उत्पादन की कमी का एक कारण यह भी है कि वहाँ बिजुत् की कमी है। मध्य प्रदेश की यही हालत है उत्तर प्रदेश की यही हालत है, और बंगाल की यही हालत है, और आज जो मंत्री जी ने आंकड़ों का जाल बिछा दिया जैसा पहले अंग्रेजी साम्राज्य में और कांग्रेसी हकूमत में होता था कि जब कोई बात पूछी जाए तो इस सदन में और विधान सभाओं में आंकड़ों का जाल बिछा दिया जाय। ठीक उसी तरह के आंकड़ों के जाल से देश की जनता को भ्रमित किया जा रहा है। और इस सदन को गुमराह किया जा रहा है। मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि स्पष्ट रूप से आपको स्वीकार करना चाहिए कि इन कारणों से बिजुत् ज्यादा पैदा नहीं हो रही है। यहाँ हालत सुधरी है, वहाँ सुधरी है, यही कहा गया है। यदि इस में सुधार हुआ है तो कितना सुधार हुआ है ?

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अंतिम निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान की जनता, खास कर बिहार की जनता गरीब है, पिछड़ी है। वहाँ मजदूर बेकार पड़े हुए हैं, उन को रोजी नहीं मिल रही है, काम नहीं मिल रहा है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से इतना उत्तर चाहता हूँ कि वे यह बताये कि वे तरकाश क्या करने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, it is not our intention to confound the House by statistics. Whatever is the position in Bihar, I tried to explain. In Bihar, there is an installed capacity of about 730 MW and the latest generation capacity in that State is about 350 MW; and whatever installed capacity is there, we are trying to improve the generation in that capacity. If there is not adequate capacity installed, we must find the reasons as well, because as soon as we have taken over, we tried to help Bihar State Government and also the State Electricity Board not only by sending experts to help them, but also to make the necessary changes for improving generation. But in spite of our best efforts, there are at times forced outages in the system. With regard to availability of power in the State, even today in the Bihar State, there is no notified power cut in the State. But if there is power shortage, that is due to inadequate capacity that is existing in the State. That is why, we are sanctioning new capacity addition to the Bihar State also. Recently also the Chief Minister met me and wanted extra stations to be installed and we have agreed—for instance, Muzaffarpur and Tenughat. That is why we try to help Bihar State. Even though there is an inadequacy in capacity it would take time. The power station cannot be installed overnight and it is a long gestation period. If it is a thermal station, it takes nearly 4-5 years for installing a unit; if it is a hydel station, it takes more years and that is why, with the best of

our efforts, we will be able to help the Bihar State Electricity Board for generation of power only in the coming few months and a couple of years. Since then, whatever power we can get for Bihar, we are trying to do. In fact, we have negotiated with the Orissa Government and with the help of Orissa Government, we are trying to get some power for Bihar State—50 MW and also another 50 MW for DVC in which we also help Bihar indirectly. But, at times, we try to help Bihar State from assistance from UP and also whenever there is some surplus power in UP we try to help Bihar in that way. With these measures, we are trying to see that the position in Bihar will improve.

**DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh):** While supporting my colleague, I further state that the Statement given by the hon. Minister does not give the complete picture. What is actually being done in the country is merely a patch work. They have not told us exactly what is the total requirement of energy in the whole country and how much is the installed capacity at present. What are the plans of the Government hereafter to increase this capacity for thermal power, hydel and atomic energy generation? We would like to have a total picture from the Minister of the blueprint of the Government with regard to generation of energy through all the sources in the country. The position obtaining in Madhya Pradesh is also very grave. Many industries are running only one shift. The coal that is being supplied is of a very inferior quality. All these things require on the part of the Government a blueprint of energy generation and proper disbursement. Will the Government therefore state whether there is any plan to have a National grid in the country? Then the steps which have been mentioned in the statement will not be necessary, whenever there is some shortage in some States, then those States will not request the surplus States to give them power? Instead of that, is the Government thinking of having a

National Grid and will the hon. Minister give to this House the figures of total requirement of energy in the country for agriculture, for industry and for other purposes?

Sir, in Bihar, the water pumping stations are not working with the result that people are not getting drinking water. These are the difficulties which are being faced in various States.

In Maharashtra also, the agriculturists are complaining that their motors are being burnt because of sudden tripping, sudden closure, and outrages. Therefore, I think that Government should apply itself thoroughly to the question of installed capacities and generation and come before this House with a blue-print of their future generation plan.

**SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN:** With regard to the general question raised by the hon. Member, I would like to explain that it is only based on the evaluation by the Planning Commission. We have decided to add to the existing capacity another 18,500 megawatts in the coming five years. Last year we added nearly 2,000 megawatts. In the current year we propose to add roughly about 3,800 megawatts to the existing capacity. By the end of this Plan, the total installed capacity will be round about 44,000 megawatts. With these 44,000 megawatts, as it is today, we will be in a position to meet the entire demand in the country.

With regard to deficiencies in certain stations in the country, we have sent multi-disciplinary teams to find out, to diagnose, the deficiencies in the various units and repair them also. We have tried to train proper personnel for operation purposes in the power stations. One of the deficiencies that we came across in our studies is that proper maintenance is not there in some of the power stations. It is our endeavour to help the State Electricity Boards to carry on this maintenance also properly. When there is lack of adequate capacity in the coun-

[Shri P. Ramachandran]

try, some of the units have to be working overtime also. Because of that also, there are, what is called, 'forced outages' in some of the power stations

With the existing capacity, by proper maintenance, by increased generation and also by addition of new capacities, in this country, we hope to achieve self-sufficiency in the course of the next six to seven years in power position. It is very difficult to say that, in this year itself, we will achieve self-sufficiency. It is not possible because any scheme with regard to power generation takes a longer time as I have explained. That is why we try to impress upon the hon. Members of this House that we are constantly trying to improve the power generation. Today you find that, compared to last year, our generation has gone by more than 2,000 magawatts; apart from that, our generation has gone up by 15 per cent in the first quarter of this year itself. In the entire country we need about 290 million units at the moment—the total daily requirement—and we are now generating roughly about 275 million units. There is some deficit, and we would like to bridge this gap by improved generation and also by stabilising the new units that we are installing in the current year.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I have a point of order on the call attention. Some of us have been giving notices of call-attention on the power crisis in the country for the last seven days. Yet, there were only two names in the list! How is it, Sir, that we cannot get our chances? Please send for all the notices since the House started sitting in this Session and see the notices.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will

श्री राज नारायण (राय बरेली) : बिजली का सबाल इतना महत्वपूर्ण है कि इस पर एक दिन पूरा बहस के लिए रखा

जाना चाहिये। मेरा मंत्री महोदय ने जो शरीर दिया है उससे उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश आदि की स्थिति स्पष्ट नहीं हो रही है। न किसान को बिजली काफी मिल पा रही है और न ही . . . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका नोटिस नही मारा है।

श्री राज नारायण : मैं सुझाव दे रहा हूँ। एक दिन पूरा इसलिए रखा जाना चाहिए ताकि पूरी तरह से इस पर बहस हो सके।

12.25 hrs.

RE. PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Chandradeo Prasad Verma. . . He is not here. Mr. Chaturbhuj. He is also not here. Any other Member of the Committee? . . . None is present!

We now take up matters under Rule 377.

**PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR** (Gandhinagar): What happens to Item No. 8? You must ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. . . (Interruptions).

**MR. SPEAKER:** We will take it up later. (Interruptions). After Lunch we will try to get one of them. Now, Mr. Mhalgi.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** (Diamond Harbour): We would like a statement on this tomorrow as to why these gentlemen, although their names are printed here, did not turn up. This is very important for us. The House must be treated with due respect.