

17.31 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

EFFECT OF SHORTAGE OF POWER ON
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, the latest position with regard to power cut has been very ably described in this CSO-published Annual Survey of Industries and today it has been re-produced in the *Economic Times* Bombay which says:

"With the power cut radiating to the more important industrial States of the nation, it is now certain that the rate of growth of industrial output, which touched 7.7 per cent during the nine months ended September 1972, would flag.

Maharashtra which accounts for 24 per cent of the industrial output is affected by a power cut of 4 to 16 per cent on industrial consumption. A power cut of upto 8 per cent can be absorbed without a fall in output—by saying on peripheral consumption.

In West Bengal, which accounts for about 20 per cent of the industrial output a 15 per cent power cut has been imposed. West Bengal has not perhaps been a significant contributor to the growth rate in industrial output. But given the size of the power cut, its contribution to the national growth rate might be negative.

Tamil Nadu has imposed a power cut of 15 per cent on essential services and of 75 per cent on other uses.

Thus the four States which account for 60 per cent of the industrial output are under varying degrees of power supply constraint—in excess of the 8 per cent safe limit."

Sir, that is the position. I request the hon. Minister to go through this

Article which is very useful. It has given a complete picture and the picture is really alarming. This crisis is the outcome of continuous and deliberate neglect in the sphere of power generation. I will read out from the Fourth Five Year Plan (1969—1974) which says:

"As against a target of 6.9 m. kW of installed capacity for 1960-61 the actual capacity commissioned was 5.65 m. kW. This led to power cuts and a staggering of loads in some regions. The target for the Third Plan was 12.69 m. kW of installed capacity. The actual capacity commissioned was 10.17 m. kW."

That is the performance. Moreover, when the shortfall is adding up it is a different picture. I again quote:

"On the basis of the outlay for power generation a net installed capacity of 23 m. kW can be achieved, allowing for retirement of 0.4 m. kW of old and obsolete plant. Out of the 23 m. kW capacity, 9.42 m. kW will be from hydro, 12.75 m. kW from thermal and 0.98 m. kW from nuclear stations."

But although the target at the end of the Fourth Plan was 23 million k.w., as I said just now, the extent of shortfall is around 3 million kW. It has been very nicely stated in an article in the *Deccan Herald* dated 20th October, 1972, which says:

"Power development during the Fourth Plan is likely to fall short of the target by 3 million kW., according to the latest estimates. The share of thermal power generation is 2-1/2 times when it is compared with the hydro—whereas thermal power generation costs about twice as much when compared with the hydro."

So, the shortage being due to lack of rain-fall is not wholly true. Moreover, this is very nicely stated in the

Free Press Journal, Bombay dated the 26th February, 1973 in an editorial, saying:

"Planning that does not free itself from nature's vagaries is no planning at all this simple truism could never have been so evidently brought home as during this year when a failure of the monsoon led to an unprecedented multiple crisis in vital areas such as power and food."

Then, there are large transmission losses. It is very nicely described in that article which says:

"The transmission losses are to the extent of 20 to 25 per cent. In this connection, it is pertinent to note that one per cent loss in transmission at national level should result in a loss of Rs. 5 crores to the nation."

Our own equipment-making projects are a total failure more or less. Regarding this, it says:

"Another cause can be the inefficiency of the public sector organisations like the British-assisted...."

—sabotaged, of course—

'...Heavy Electrical Ltd.... Both public sector companies with a total investment of over Rs. 2500 million have been set up for the manufacture of heavy electricals equipment. It is observed that these two units always showed delay in fulfilling orders. But apart from this, it should be noted that the contribution has been about a million k.w., that is 0.3 million k.w. of hydro-and about 0.7 million k.w. of thermal plant equipment."

After this, what do we see? The target of addition in the Fourth Plan is 9.24 million k.w., out of which indigenous equipment generated 4.859 million k.w. This is more than 50 per cent. But how much has actually

materialised? Only 1 million k.w. has been realised, as is evident from the quotation which I have just now read out. That means complete dependence on foreigners, particularly West Germany and the USA. This is causing havoc everywhere. Now, we are in the midst of the food scarcity. What has happened in Punjab. The article says:

"If the acute shortage of power in Punjab and Haryana causes a slump in the production of cereals, a large part of the blame for it will go to the Central Government. After a good deal of dilly-dallying, it has taken only what can be described as a perverse decision on the Nangal fertiliser factory."

Then, there is the question of losses to industries. In a talk over the All India Radio, broadcast the other day by Dr. A. K. Bhattacharyya, he had very rightly stated:

"It has been reported that the loss of production in the jute industry alone in the eastern region in the first six months of 1972 amounted to about Rs. 9 crores out of which the loss of foreign exchange is about Rs. 5 crores."

The Economic Times puts the total loss at Rs. 1000 crores, and it says:

"According to a statement reported to have been made by the Minister of Power and Irrigation, the loss in production during the five or six months had been over Rs. 1000 crores."

It works out at Rs. 130 lakhs per day.

Then, let us see how the public sector corporation, namely the DVC has failed. These are glaring instances. The DVC has the capacity to generate 1060 MW, but its current production is hardly 424 MW, which is about 40 per cent against the immediate demand of 650 MW. That is the position and performance of the public sector power generating unit.

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu.]

Here is a report which says:

"The Bihar Government says that its Dhanbad area which produces a large amount of coal and in which many manufacturing units have sprung up, is experiencing a serious power shortage leading to drastic cuts in coal production. On the other hand, Mr. B. S. Raghavan, West Bengal's Power Commissioner, indicates that if DVC supplies the amount of power, there need not be any power rationing in West Bengal today, also acknowledging the fact that WBSEB's own utilisation of capacity is hardly 45 per cent.

"On the other hand, Mr. Raghavan wants that DVC should not supply any electrical power to Indian Iron at Burnpur as it has a captive power generating capacity of 60 mw."

Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam is here—

"but is able to generate only 12 mw. or about 20 per cent of its rated capacity".

That is the position.

Then in West Bengal, the situation is alarming. I go further. *West Bengal's Approach to Fifth Five Year Plan* published by the State Planning Board clearly states this on p. 46—which Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee may note—

"Thus an augmentation of 240 mw is envisaged against a huge deficit of almost 340 mw already existing. This deficit includes considerable amount of suppressed demand as well as demand for normal growth and expansion both in the urban and rural sectors. If the DVC load is to be shunted back to the valley and the derated capacities of CESC are to be covered."

the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation, a British monopoly, the great godfathers of the ruling party;

they only do trading; they buy at 3P and sell at five times that price. Dr. Rao is smiling—he knows how true I am—

"the deficiency with which the Fifth Plan period begins will be alarming. All prospects of planned activities in the co-lateral sectors of agriculture, irrigation and industry for the Fifth Five Year Plan will appear gloomy and may get jeopardised".

There is widespread misuse and lack of policy on consumption. They do not know how to tighten their belts; they do not know how to pull up their socks. Here is the most leading weekly in the country, the *Economic and Political Weekly*, which says:

"According to the Agriculture Ministry's present estimates, despite the emergency production drive, wheat production is likely to be only 3 to 4 million tonnes more than last year's output of 27 million tonnes....

"However one wonders if careful planning was at all attempted to face the shortages. At least, the co-existence of two phenomena, viz: energy-starved tubewells (and industries) on the one hand, and liberal illuminations and dazzling noon lights (including those advertising the very products whose production has been stopped for want of adequate power supply) in the towns on the other, would suggest that precious little had been done to face the shortages of power through rearranging its use pattern. Unless unproductive use of power is severely restricted, it is doubtful that it will be possible to effectively meet the requirement of even a fraction of the 1.52 lakh tubewells targeted to be energised, as a part of the emergency production programme, by the end of March".

What do we see? When you go to a Minister's room, you see at least 10,000 c. ft. of space; you see 4-8 air

conditioners; you see at least 4-6 fans—all for one Minister. I have been to the rooms of Ministers in other countries, but I have never seen any country where the *per capita* income is the lowest in the world—\$ 73.00—a Minister having 4-8 air conditioners and 6 fans in his room. I always ask them, where is your swimming pool? Because they deserve one for relaxation because they are hard-working people!

You know about the payment of electricity bills in respect of private residential portion of their bungalows—I am not mixing up; I know there are separate meters; we know all that, it does not include security arrangements. The total amount of electricity bills paid by Government in respect of residential portions of bungalows of Central Ministers for 1971-72 for the period ending January 1972, up to which bills have been received, is Rs. 87,922. For a period of 9 months, 1-4-71 to 31-1-72, Shri Y. B. Chavan's bill comes to Rs. 4,856.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How is it relevant to the present discussion?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Waste of electricity. In respect of another Minister—I will not mention the name because I know that irritates you—it came to Rs. 4,188. Then in the case of Shri L. N. Mishra—sorry, I mentioned the name—it is Rs. 4,880. For another Minister of State, it is Rs. 3,242. They talk about the pulling of such and about preserving of energy and making use of it for better purpose.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Is it not a world crisis?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I know you are a confused man; I am coming to it. What I am saying is, although there is such a crisis—

MR. CHAIRMAN: The subject-matter of the discussion is, "effect of shortage of power on industrial production."

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am absolutely on my rails. I am trying to show how low the consumption of the individual, common man is. This document says:

"In regard to another important infrastructural pre-requisite, viz., power supply, the position in West Bengal is rather precarious, despite the State's high-ranking in terms of *per capita* power consumption, with an annual *per capita* power consumption of 105.4 kwh as against the all-India average of 58.0 kwh."

This is the position.

As far as North Bengal is concerned, it is at the bottom of the world. The tariff rate in West Bengal is one of the highest. It says:

"So far as the power rates are concerned, there is no incentive to locate industries in West Bengal because the rates are much higher than the normal ones."

Then there is this British monopoly of the Calcutta Electricity Corporation. I would quote from what Dr. Rao had said in reply to the debate, and what I said, on the 27th August, 1966. I said:

"In 1958, they sold 1,501 million units and in 1967, 2,520 million units, a rise of about 60 per cent. The number of consumers in 1958 was 3,11,274, and in 1967, it was 5,41,841... They drew a loan from the State Bank of India which amounts to Rs. 4.7 crores. And this was said in reply to a question here: consumer deposits—those who pay at the rate of 17 paise per unit..."

it was that much at that time; now it is much more—

"The DVC sells them at five paise. Their money to the tune of Rs. 2-1.2 crores is being invested in the business, fetching fabulous profits. The rupee debenture is more than Rs. 1.37 crores."

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu.]

And then, Dr. K. L. Rao said:

"As I have submitted already, the hon. Member, Shri Bosu, has made out a very good case. There is a lot of good points in his speech, but I will come to the practical aspect of his suggestion."

The practical aspect is, you are unwilling, reluctant, to net the British, foreign monopoly interests. That is the crux of the whole thing. They are your godfathers in the West.

I only want to say that unless this Government gives up its path of development towards capitalism, and its servile mentality towards the foreign and Indian capitalists, and its lack of concern to the common man and lack of concern for the genuine growth in the field of economy and development, nothing is going to change. We shall have more difficulties and we shall be perpetually in it.

श्री हुक्म चन्द कछवाय (मुरेना) :

सभापति महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न दो मंत्रालयों से है, पहली दूसरी तीसरी और चौथी पांच-वर्षीय योजनाओं में बिजली के उत्पादन के क्या लक्ष्य थे और उन में कितनी कमी हुई है तथा कितने लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति हुई है? पांचवीं योजना में उद्योगों के लिये बिजली के उत्पादन का क्या लक्ष्य है और उस के किस सीमा तक पूरे होने की सम्भावना है?

विभिन्न राज्यों में जा बिजली का वितरण होता है उस में समानता नहीं है और उन के आपस के सम्बन्ध भी ठीक नहीं है उस के बटवारे को ले कर। उसको ठीक करने के लिये आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं? बड़े बड़े उद्योगों को बिजली देने के बारे में आपकी जो पालिसी है वह कोई निश्चित पालिसी नहीं है। किस किस को कितनी कितनी बिजली देनी है, इसके बारे में आप के पास कोई निश्चित पालिसी नहीं है। क्या आप बड़े बड़े उद्योगों को अनुमति देंगे कि उनको जितनी बिजली चाहिये उसका वे स्वयं निर्माण

करें और इस काम में आप उनको सहयोग प्रदान करें ताकि ग्राम लोगों को और छोटे उद्योगों को जो बिजली मिलती है, वह उनको ठीक प्रकार से मिलती रह सके? बड़े उद्योग अपनी आवश्यकता के लिए बिजली स्वयं निर्माण करें, क्या आप इस प्रकार को कोई व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं?

*SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN (Salem):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister of Industrial Development, Shri C. Subramaniam, whether the recently constituted cabinet Committee consisting of three Central Ministers, of which Shri C. Subramaniam is one, to look into the question of overall power shortage throughout the country in relation to its adverse effect on the industrial production of the country, has been apprised of the request of the Tamil Nadu Government for importing 500 Generators to tide over the present acute power shortage and if so what action has been taken by the Central Government or by this high-power Committee on this request. I would also like to know whether this ministerial Committee has been kept informed of the repeated warning about the impending power crisis in Tamil Nadu given by the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board from 26th May 1972 onwards, of his concrete suggestions in the meetings of concerned Ministries held in Delhi on 30th May 1972 and on 30th September 1972, of his estimated requirement of coal by all the Thermal Stations in Tamil Nadu, of the letter written on 3rd June, 1972 by the Central Water and Power Commission to the Secretary of the Ministry of Steel and Mines mentioning the urgent need for sending Singareni coal to Ennore Thermal Power Station and if so what action has been taken by this Committee on these various proposals made by the Tamil Nadu Government beginning from 26th May 1972.

*The Original speech was delivered in Tamil.

Before I conclude, I am sure that the hon. Minister of Industrial Development will agree with view of his colleague, Dr. K. L. Rao expressed on the floor of this House that Tamil Nadu occupies the first place in the entire country in the matter of proper and economic utilisation of power.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय (मंदसौर) :
बिजली की निरंतर कमी के कारण इंडस्ट्रियल ग्रोथ पर इसका क्या असर पड़ा है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि 1972-73 और 1973-74 की इंडस्ट्रियल ग्रोथ पर इसका क्या असर पड़ा है और पड़ेगा ? उसमें कितने प्रतिशत कमी आई है ? इस कमी को पूरा करने के लिए आप दूसरे कौन से उपाय करने जा रहे हैं ताकि और अधिक कमी उसमें न आए ? क्या जैन्ट्रेंटिंग सेट्स बनाने की कोई योजना आपके विचाराधीन है ताकि जब जलाभाव हो या कोयले का संकट हो तो जो कमी पैदा हो उसको मीट किया जा जा सके ? इस प्रकार की कोई योजना क्या आपके पास है ? बिजली की कमी ने कृषि उत्पादन को भी काफी घटाया है । आप अपनी इंडस्ट्रियल ग्रोथ में पावर क्राइसिस से कमी न आने देंगे, इस हेतु क्या कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur):
It is an admitted fact that all over the country there is acute shortage of power. Is it a fact that Kothayar Hydro-scheme in Tamilnadu which is completed has not been commissioned yet?

Secondly, is there any directive about priorities for essential industries on all India basis? In my State of U.P. priority has been given to some of the industries but not to defence industry which are manufacturing sophisticated weapons for the defence of the country. I have referred to this earlier also because some private industries have been exempted from the power cut.

Thirdly did the Centre sanction the sale of Samayanallur Thermal

Plant in Tamilnadu? Was to be dismantled and sold as scrap? Did the Tamilnadu Government obtain permission from the Centre to do it?

Lastly has any policy been evolved so that power is judiciously used by all sections of the people in all the States when there is power shortage?

Still we find in UP and other places, in marriages people use power to their heart's content. Even here, in the ministers' houses, power is being used liberally. I will not quote the bills, I want to know whether any policy has been evolved about it because we are not going to overcome the power shortage for three or four years, according to Dr. K. L. Rao. In the case of UP I want to know why no directive has been issued to exempt defence factories from the power cut.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAN): Sir, when I heard the speech of the mover, I was wondering for what purpose this discussion has been raised. If it was to exhibit his knowledge, certainly I am prepared to pass on the certificate to him.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That will put me at a disadvantage.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: But if it was to impress upon the Government the seriousness of the situation, this exercise was absolutely unnecessary because Government are fully aware of the seriousness of the situation. (*Interruptions*).

The extent of shortfall and the causes for it have been fully explained in the statement made by the Minister of Irrigation and Power in this House on the 28th February. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to go through all those details. But I would like to place before the House certain facts.

The aggregate energy demand in the country is of the order of 201 million units per day against which the

[Shri C. Subramaniam.]

estimated availability is about 166 millions units per day, i.e. a shortfall of 35 million KWH per day. The intensity of the shortage is very acute in certain areas and in certain other areas, the availability is satisfactory. Therefore, even though the shortfall is 35 against 201, in certain areas the hardship is really great.

The following measures have been taken to mitigate the shortage: (1) Power generation from the existing thermal power stations has been stepped up to the maximum possible extent. In the past there were some deficiencies in their operation and maintenance. To the extent possible, we are trying to improve them. (2) The supply and transport of coal to major thermal stations is being continually monitored through a Control Room to ensure adequate supplies. Mr. Krishnan wanted to know whether coal had been moved to Ennore. My colleague in charge of coal assures me that sufficient coal has been moved there, but the difficulty there is not due to shortage of coal but because of the design for which they should take some responsibility, which is standing in the way of the full utilisation of the capacity at Ennore. (3) Arrangements are being made to supply on a priority basis spare parts for the thermal units which are under repair. (4) Captive plants and diesel sets are being permitted to be installed by private industries, specially as stand-by arrangements. With reference to this, Shri Krishnan made the point that a demand for 500 sets has been made by the Tamil Nadu Government or the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. We are just now making an exercise, trying to find out how many sets will be available even for imports and, on that basis, try to find out the areas of priority; particularly taking into account the acute nature of the shortage in Tamil Nadu, naturally they will get some priority in the allocation of the sets. (5) Then, commissioning of various power

generation schemes which are in advanced stage of construction is being expedited. (6) States have been requested to set up implementation cells to monitor the progress of projects and overcome bottlenecks.

18.00 hrs.

We have also fixed priorities in supply of power. The priorities fixed are: (1) Agriculture for irrigation purposes; (2) fertilizer units; (3) steel, washeries and coal mines and (4) aluminium, zinc, copper etc. These are in addition to the top priority accorded to food production and railway traction. As Shri Krishnan pointed out, a group of Ministers has also been appointed for the purpose of looking into this problem. We are continuously going through this exercise. I want to give this assurance to this House that we are trying to take emergency action in respect of all the items which I had mentioned so that it should be possible to mitigate the hardships arising out of this power shortage.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Should I take it that the defence factories are not in the priority list?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: All the defence factories will certainly not get priority. But certain areas of production will get priority. Simply because the hon. Member comes from an area where there are defence production units, it does not mean it should get automatic priority. Government is security conscious and it will see that production is not affected to the detriment of the security of the country on account of power shortage. Further, I am informed by my hon. colleague that whereas the general cut in UP is 40 per cent, as far as defence units are concerned, the cut is only 20 per cent. Therefore, priority has been given.

I am only concerned with the effect of this scarcity of power on industrial production. As a matter of fact, I have categorically stated in my answer

(HAI)

that this is going to affect industrial production. But to what extent in respect of each sector of industry, it is rather difficult to make an immediate assessment. But we are trying to make an estimate of the likely fall in production, taking into account each State, and in that State how much of cut has been made in respect of each sector of industry. But that will take some time because the cut varies from State to State and from industry to industry. But there is no doubt in my mind that it is going to create a shortfall in industrial production due to power scarcity. As soon as those figures are available, I will certainly make them available to the House.

Then it was mentioned by the hon. Member that we are completely dependent on imports with regard to equipment. May be, in the past we were dependent on imports to a certain extent. Particularly in the earlier periods, mostly it was imported equipment. But I want to give the assurance to the House and this assurance has been not only given to the Cabinet but to the people as a whole. The workers in the heavy electrical units also are committed to the assurance we had given to the nation that during the Fifth Plan period it will be possible to meet the overall requirements of equipment in the four production units that we have in the public sector supplemented by production in a few units in the private sector also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What is the utilisation of built-in capacity of your factory at Bhopal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't interrupt him.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am not yielding.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am asking that question.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am not answering that question.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: So, you have something to hide.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: That is your job to hide things. Everything is open, as far as we are concerned.

As far as the equipments are concerned, we have given the assurance and we stand by this commitment, that is, the management of the heavy electricals, that any order placed with reference to the thermal units, it will be delivered within a period of 36 months. Even if you go in for imports, this period is the minimum period which is required for getting the equipment from abroad. As far as hydro-electric projects are concerned, from the date of the placement of the order, within 48 months, the equipment will be made available. If you go abroad, the same time will be taken. This is as far as the period is concerned.

Even with regard to the price, as far as boilers are concerned, they will be supplied at the imported cost of an equipment from abroad. As far as other equipments are concerned, for the next two years, it will be 10 per cent more than the imported cost. But after two years, the cost will be equivalent to the imported cost. This is the commitment we have made. I want to give an assurance to the House and to the nation that the management as a whole, including the workers are committed to this programme. I am happy to say that during the last one year, significant progress has been made in these projects and the utilisation also has considerably increased during the last six months. Let us not discourage these enterprises for making all sorts of un-informed criticism in this House without knowing what is happening today.

Then, a point was made by my hon. friend, Shri Krishnan, that in Tamil Nadu, a certificate has been given by Dr. K. L. Rao that most efficient use of the available electricity is being made there. I do agree. But this is

[Shri C. Subramaniam]

not anything that is happening just now. It is a tradition which has been there during the last 20 years. I hope, that tradition will be kept up instead of being spoiled by interfering with that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee made a point with regard to the sale of a generator in Samayanallur. It is rather very unfortunate that at this juncture the Tamil Nadu went ahead and sold away a generator. As a matter of fact, it was sold sometime last year. Because of the emergency, the price perhaps is now so prohibitive or even it has increased five to six times. Therefore, huge profits have been made by whoever has been able to get that generator. I wish the Tamil Nadu Government had some fore-sight to see that they were going to be confronted with the power shortage. Even a 30 MW generator available there would have made all the difference. It was unfortunate that it was sold away.

SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN: It was not in a working condition and, yearly, there was a loss of Rs. 55 lakhs.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: These are the main points that have been covered. I do not think there is any more point that I have got to answer.

SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM (Coimbatore): What about Kodaiyaruhydel plant which was completed but not commissioned as yet?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: You may put the question to my colleague. I do not know the facts.... (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to reply only those who were allowed to put questions.

श्री सुकमचन्द्र कच्छवाय : सभापति जी, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया है। मैंने प्रश्न किया था कि बड़े उद्योगों को स्वयं अपनी दिजली बनाने की अनुमति क्या आप देंगे, उनको उसके लिए सहयोग देंगे? दूसरे-पहली पंच-वर्षीय योजना से चौथी योजना तक कितना आपका लक्ष्य था और कितनी उसकी प्राप्ति आपने की तथा कितना घटा उसमें रहा ?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I replied generally. I did not mention the name of Mr. Kachwai.

The policy of the Government is to have generation of electricity in the public sector. Now, when we are allowing small generators to supplement the supply of electricity, it is only very small units like 100 kw or 500 kw or at the most, one megawatt; that is the policy of the Government. The policy of the Government is to have the entire production of electricity in the public sector. This is the policy.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for having drawn the attention of the Government to the seriousness of the situation and we are well aware of it and we shall try to meet it as best as possible.

18.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 8, 1973/Phalgun 17, 1894 (Saka).