

[श्री भानसिंह भौरा]

आयेगा ? आपने जाकर कहा था कि गरीबी हटाओ, हम समाजवाद लायेंगे । हम भी आपके साथ थे । हमने कहा था कि ठीक है लेकिन अब हो क्या रहा है ? .. (ध्वजवाज) . . .

सभापति महोदय : आप इसको जनरल डिन्काशन मत बनाइये । आप सीधे बिल पर ही आ जाइये ।

श्री भानसिंह भौरा : इस पार्लियामेंट को जो काम 11 साल पहले करना चाहिए था, आठ-काल 45 के मूताबिक वह हम आज करने जा रहे हैं । आज भी कुछ लोग कहते हैं कि नहीं होगा । मैं समझता हूं यह अच्छी बात है और अगर एजुकेशन कमलमरी हो जाये, बुढ़ापे की पेंशन मिल जाये और राइट टु वर्क भी इसमें आता है । हिन्दुस्तान में गरीबी हटाने की जो बात है उस सिनिमिले में मोशनियम की तरफ आप एक कदम जरूर आगे बढ़ेंगे ।

जहां तक करप्शन हटाने की बात है, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हू कि अगर यह बात हो जाये यानी अगर एक आदमी को यह पता हो कि मेरे बच्चे को फ्री एजुकेशन मिल जायेगी और उसको पता हो कि जब मैं बुढ़ा होऊंगा तो उस वक्त मेरे खाने के लिए रांटी मिल जायेगी तो यह जो करप्शन का मामला है वह भी हल हो जायेगा । और जब तक आप ये बातें नहीं करते हैं तब तक हर एक यही संकल्प है कि मैं पैसा इकट्ठा करूंगा ताकि आगे चलकर के बुढ़ापे में वह काम आ सके । इस लिए ये जो बातें हैं—बुढ़ापे में पेंशन की और यह जो फ्री एजुकेशन आप करने जा रहे हैं यह समाजवाद की पहली सीढ़ी है । अगर आप यह नहीं करते हैं तो इतना यहाँ मतलब होगा कि आप कहते तो कुछ हैं और करते कुछ है । मिनिस्टर साहब यहाँ बैठे हैं, मैं कहना चाहता हू कि जहाँ तक पैसा का सबाल है वह आ सकता है । डा. कर्णी सिंह इस बिल को लाये हैं और दस करोड़ तो डा. कर्णी सिंह आप ही देंगे ।

डा. कर्णी सिंह : मैं किस तरह से दे दूंगा, यह भी तो फर्माइये ।

श्री भान सिंह भौरा : सरकार प्रीवीपर्स को खत्म करे, दस करोड़ अपने आप ही आ जायेगा : .. (ध्वजवाज)

जब सरकार वह बिल यहाँ पर लायेगी तो उस वक्त मैं भी डा. साहब से कहूंगा कि आप भी इसका विरोध न कीजिए । इसलिए इस वक्त डा. साहब जो बिल लाये हैं वह बहुत अच्छा है और उस वक्त भी डा. साहब उस बिल का विरोध नहीं कर सकेंगे । हम उनसे कहेंगे कि उस वक्त तो आप यह कहते थे और अब आप क्या कहते हैं । इसलिए मैं गवर्नमेन्ट से अपील करूंगा कि यह बिल बहुत अच्छा है, इसको डा. साहब लाये हों या कोई दूसरा यह मवाल नहीं है, किसी की तरफ से आया हो इसको मान लेना चाहिए । इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इसको सपोर्ट करता हूँ और उम्मीद करता हूँ कि सरकार इसको मान लेगी ।

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : Mr. Cahirman, Sir, I want to say.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will continue his speech when this subject is again taken up. Now we will take up the Half an Hour discussion.

17.30 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION RE-SLOW PROGRESS OF ELECTRIFICATION IN WEST BENGAL- BIHAR AND ORISSA.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Daschowdhury. He will take only ten minutes.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Bihar) : Why do you impose the time limitation?

श्री नवल किशोर सिंह: (मुजफ्फरपुर) सभापति जी, कितना समय हम लोगों को मिलेगा ?

सभापति महोदय : सब को समय नहीं मिलेगा । 10 मिनट माननीय सदस्य बोलेंगे जिन्होंने इस चर्चा को उठाया है, फिर उसका जवाब मंत्री जी देंगे । उस के बाद सबाल पूछे जा सकते हैं ।

SHRI P. GANGADEB (Angul): Orissa also should be given some time.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I am the only person to ask questions today. I may be given the time of four questions.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : I think, from each of the States one speaker may be allowed. I will reply next time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No; according to the Rules only those who have given their names can be called to put questions.

DR. K.L. RAO : He represents only Bengal. There must be someone from Bihar and Orissa also because this is a discussion about all the States.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am bound by the Rules.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : I do not think there is any hard and fast rule. You can easily allow one or two speakers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He may start.

SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY : This is a very important subject and I fear very much whether I will be able to speak out what I want to say within this time limitation of ten minutes, as you have said.

Very often we discuss in this House about the slow progress of electricity and it is more so in the eastern region of India. Here is a specific question that was asked on the last 25th May as to what are the reasons for the slow progress of electricity in these States of India—Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal. The

only reply that was advanced by this hon. Minister is that these State Governments have not taken so much of care to improve the position of electricity in the respective States.

Certain figures were given. The number of electrified villages and towns in 1968-69 in the case of West Bengal were villages 260 and towns 2; in 1969-70 villages 186, towns nil; in 1970-71 villages 345, towns nil and the footnote is there that three towns remain to be electrified; in the case of Bihar, villages 661 in 1968-69, 797 in 1969-70 and 742 in 1970-71 and the electrification of towns in all those three years nil; in Orissa, in 1968-69 62 villages, in 1969-70 129 villages and in 1970-71 311 villages and towns nil. This is the position.

Even in these days, when we have spent a lot of amount of money since the beginning of the First Five-Year Plan and we are just in the middle of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, some of the town areas are not electrified, what to talk of the villages. In Orissa for the last three years no towns were electrified. In West Bengal in the last five years, as stated by the hon. Minister the other day, only two towns were electrified in 1968-69; thereafter nothing happened. Till today towns or area having a concentration of population of 10,000 or more have not yet been electrified.

It is true, in some State Governments they are doing the best to electrify not only the towns but also the villages, we have been told. To be short on this point, in West Bengal there are 38,446 villages; out of this a little less than 2,600 villages were electrified. giving a figure, in terms of percentage, a little above 6 per cent. But in respect of Kerala and some other States it is about 45 per cent. And the average all India figure is about 19 per cent of the villages in India have been electrified.

The Central Government seems to be very much keen on laying the emphasis on the point that the State Governments are not coming up, stating clearly that these are the States' sectors. But probably the hon. Minister has forgotten, while he states that these are the States' sectors, that electricity comes under the Concurrent List also. Taking into account the huge deficiency in food articles and a lot of money that we have to spend on important of food-grains, I would ask the hon. Minister: Was it not proper on his part at least to see that

[Shri B. K. Daschowdhury]

those State Governments which are not coming up properly to electrify villages, the rural areas, at least to augment the energisation of pumps in the agricultural sector? It ought to have been the responsibility of the hon. Minister to push them up and, if necessary to give them some more finances.

Under the scheme of Rural Electrification Corporation, five big schemes have already been cleared up and they are proposed to be financed by the Centre. These are not within the States' sector. Those States concerned are, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh. These are the States where a large number of villages have been electrified.

I would like to give you some of the figures in regard to the number of pumps electrified upto the first three Plans. In West Bengal, the number of pumps electrified is 437. As regards Orissa, no figures have been given as they are not available. In Bihar, the number of pumps electrified is 10,660, whereas in the case of Maharashtra it is 44,978 pumps; Tamil Nadu, 2,36,394; Mysore—42,371; Gujrat—17,155 and, even then, these States have been provided with additional finances to the extent of hundreds of crores of rupees to have more and more of rural electrification. But the States which had the minimum number of pumps electrified upto the first three Plans, say, for example, West Bengal where 437 pumps were electrified as compared to Tamil Nadu where 2,36,394 pumps were electrified, have not been given any additional Special finances.

I appreciate the work of all those State Governments. But, no doubt, I cannot appreciate the work of the Union Minister in respect of sanctioning additional finances to those States under certain schemes. We appreciate the work of those States which have advanced so much. But what about the States which are lagging behind like anything and which are regarded as the darkest regions in the whole of India. For these three States, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, no special schemes have been sanctioned for more power generation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may try to conclude now.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : It is not yet 10 minutes. You have been kind enough to allow me 10 minutes. If you go on ringing the bell like this, it disturbs me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then, your will not get the reply from the hon. Minister. We will adjourn at 6 O' Clock sharp.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : It is a very important discussion.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : I must make my observations.

DR. K.L. RAO : I surrender 5 minutes' time to him. He must champion the cause for these three States.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You cannot get away like that. We want to hear you.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : This is one aspect of the matter. It is not only the ills of West Bengal today, not only the ills of Calcutta today, that confront the Union Government so much, I must say, for all these reasons, if not for one of the reasons, it is the Central Government's glaring apathy to West Bengal that gives rise to law and order problem in day and in day out.

I will now refer to certain statistics. I would like to bring it to your kind notice that even in the Fourth Five-year Plan for West Bengal, only Rs. 10 crores have been earmarked under 'Rural Electrification Schemes'. For Tamilnadu it is Rs. 41 crores. For UP, it is Rs. 61 crores. For Mysore, it is Rs. 15 crores. For Maharashtra it is 25 crores and so on.

What about Orissa? For Orissa, it is 6.75 crores or something. It is less than Rs. 7 crores.

If it is the duty of the Union Government to see that the backward regions should come up to the level of the advanced regions, and that what we spend on the import of foodgrains should be minimised, is it not equally the duty of the Union Government, to see that the darkest areas get adequate light and adequate financial aid.

It is not only the case of West Bengal. There are various backward regions and in

every State there are certain under-developed areas. In West Bengal there are such backward and under-developed regions. For the benefit of the people of North Bengal to remove the darkness from the entire region, certain special financial aid should be made. Even when the State Government authorities had received certain sanctions from the special fund at the Centre, we have found that the amount has not been spent. This is known to all that North Bengal is the most backward region in that State. Side by side, we find that North Bihar also is backward, and no schemes have been taken up there also, either from the side of the Government of Bihar or from the side of the Government of West Bengal. Very recently, the State Government of West Bengal received an amount of more than Rs. 300 lakhs for three schemes. These schemes have been spilled over in the five districts of West Bengal, namely Hooghly, Midnapore, 24-Parganas, Birbhum and Bankura, completely ignoring legitimate claims of the five districts of North Bengal. These five districts are giving more than one-third of the total agricultural income generated in the State of West Bengal, although the population of these five districts of North Bengal in relation to that in West Bengal is only one-seventh.

What I would like to point out is that the economic viability is there in North Bengal district. If rural electrification schemes are made successful in North Bengal, then these five districts of North Bengal can feed the whole of West Bengal simply with the help of energised pumps in Agriculture sector.

We have been told that in West Bengal certain special schemes have been taken up to energise the pumps for the agricultural sector and for giving irrigational facilities. But so far we find that no particular steps have been taken.

It is well known that electricity is one of the basic constituents of the basic infrastructure of development. It is not enough to have merely physical capital; it is not enough to invest merely Rs. 100 crores or so for the development of these backward regions until and unless we have this basic infrastructure of development, of which electricity is one, for backward areas what is the good of investing the money? And where is the scope for

further investment? Therefore, a proper condition and climate be created for best utilisation of both physical and human capital, if backward regions are to be developed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. member should conclude now. Shri Jyotirmoy Basu.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHARY : I have not yet finished.

MR. CHAIRMAN : His finishing is not my business. I have called Shri Jyotirmoy Basu already. He should conclude now.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHARY : Kindly give me five more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry. He should conclude now.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Kindly give him two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already given him five minutes from the hon. Minister's time.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHARY : The hon. Minister has said a number of times that certain schemes are going to be commissioned to augment electrical energy in North Bengal. I have been making regular correspondence with the hon. Minister for a long time on this matter, and I have raised this issue also on the floor of this House on many occasions. I have here with me the letter written by Dr. K. L. Rao on the 18th February, 1970, from which I would like to quote just one line, which reads thus :

"In the meantime, the State authorities are also examining the feasibilities and economics of transporting coal from the existing coalfields of West Bengal and for the proposed thermal station near Siliguri. As soon as the feasibility report is received from the State authorities, we shall take further action thereon."

I would only like to remind this hon. Minister of the promise that he had made in this letter, that as soon as the feasibility report is received, he would take further action. I would like to know whether he has already taken further action.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member should conclude now.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHARY : I would like to know whether he has considered the position.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing that the hon. Member says hereafter will go on record. I have called Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu already.

The hon. Member was given ten minutes to start with, but he has already taken 17 minutes and still he is not satisfied. It is a very awkward position for the Chair, to go on persuading him to finish.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHARY : **

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : The advancement of a country is known by the quantity of protein that the country consumes and also the growth of electricity. Electricity is the source of generation of basic wealth, a thing that has never been detected by the planners of this country. It gives us power for irrigation, and power for the small, cottage and all types of industries. Yet, during the last 23 years, we are in a miserable state of affairs as far as electricity is concerned.

Government have been attaching very little importance to this Ministry. I am sorry to say that the Minister in charge has not even been given a Cabinet rank although Dr. K. L. Rao very much deserves that. There are backward States like the States of Assam, Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal. This year's budget for power and irrigation, as Shri Chavan very proudly recited yesterday, does not exceed Rs. 10 crores. But for police, they require money; during the last 15 years, from Rs. 1, 1/2 crores, it has come up to Rs. 82 crores. There is no dearth of money for that.

West Bengal has about 7.7 per cent of villages electrified. In Assam, the figure is a wonderful 2.5 per cent; in Orissa, it is 2.5 per cent and in Bihar it is 10.4 per cent. We are very happy that some states have gone forward, states like Haryana and Tamil Nadu. But what about those backward States which have lagged so far behind in this respect.

Is it not the duty of the Central Government to bring them up to the national standard? No, they have not done it.

Because of the monopolist-industry-oriented attitude of the Government of India, the allocation in the Fourth Plan for rural electrification has suffered. Rural electrification has been totally and deliberately neglected. It is a multiple employment generating source. As a member of the expert committee on unemployment, I know it; we are thrashing this point (*Interruption*). DR. Rao need not carry coal to Newcastle. I know the characteristics of his Government.

What are they doing now. The Rural Electricity Board has drawn up a project report costing Rs. 1½ crores. But the Rural Electrification Corporation is engaged in the exercise of egg first or chicken first. They say there are no tube-wells. Who will put the tube-wells? A subsoil water survey has been conducted by the GSI and they say the possibilities are very great. May I humbly request Dr. Rao to do whatever he can to find the finance for this.

There is subsidy given to industry in respect of electricity. But as far as the rural areas are concerned, agriculture cannot compete with the masters, the big monopolists and so there is no subsidy.

I would tell DR. RAO : get money somehow, beg, borrow or steal. There are plenty of sources from which you can get money. Fourteen major banks have been nationalised; insurance has been nationalised. Bonds and loans can be got through. There is PL-480. Let him tell us here and now that he is prepared to do for rural electrification in the backward states of Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister.

SHRI R. V. BADE (Kargone) : Shri G. P. Yadav from our party had sent his chit.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri P. Tangadab and Shri P. K. Deo had also sent intimations

for participating in the discussion, but their letters were not received before the commencement of the sitting and as such, the notices are time-barred.

SHRI R. V. BADE : On a point of order. It is not mentioned that it was time-barred.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have said it. The Minister of irrigation and power.

Dr. K. L. RAO : I thank hon. members for bringing out a very important subject which really deserves very great consideration. I wish there were more discussion on this subject.

Rural electrification started in India as a national policy in 1961. At that time, we had less than 2 lakh pumping sets, and less than 25,00 villages were electrified. In the last ten years, we have made a very good effort. Nearly 16 lakh wells have been electrified and 1,05,000 villages have been electrified. The tempo has gone up. We are installing pumping sets at the rate 3,1/2 lakhs a year; as for villages covered, it is at the rate of 17,000 a year.

The only regrettable feature is that there is some unbalanced development. Nearly 9 states have got less than 18.8 per cent. of rural electrification which is the average of electrification in the country. These states have half the country's population. So there are 9 states which are below average. It is regrettable that West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar, three states which have very vital resources including water should be lagging behind in this respect. This point does not need arguing or explaining. Orissa has got only 2.7 per cent of the villages electrified. It is so bad. While in Tamil Nadu for every 30 acres we have got a pumping set, in Orissa for every 30,000 acres, there is a pumping set.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about Bihar and West Bengal ?

DR. K. L. RAO : I have got very little time.

As I said, there is no need to argue that it is necessary to step up the effort considerably in these 9 states, specially the three States

I mentioned which have very vital resources, which have got plenty of water resources available for electrification both in villages and for energising pumping sets.

The only snag is that of funds. Shri Chowdhury was not correct when he said that we have given so much more money in the Plan for Tamil Nadu but not for Bengal and so on. I submitted once before that money is not allocated by the Centre. Block grants or block loans are granted to each State depending upon a certain formula and from that the State allots the money. In that respect I am sorry that West Bengal has been attaching the least importance to rural electrification; they have not done anything at all. It is really a sad thing. Money is not given by the Centre, separately for rural electrification. Tamil Nadu has understood the value of rural electrification. They have done a very huge amount of electrification; still they attach great importance and they allot substantially more funds. The Rural Electrification Corporation has been set up with the Government of India as the financing organisation and we are trying to help as much as possible.....
(Interruptions)

Gadasila in Orissa was not an electrified village. We held there a meeting in last October. It was a very good meeting and some Members of Parliament and some Members of the State Assembly were also there. The result of that meeting was that Gadasila was electrified. At that meeting we found that electrification in Orissa was not picking up because there were no transmission lines. We decided there that we shall give funds from the Corporation even for transmission lines, though it is not generally the case.

One unfortunate thing is that the States come up to us very slowly and they do not come in the proper way. I have sent specially officers to get these schemes prepared. I can assure the hon. Members that so far as the Rural Electrification Corporation is concerned I shall make the best use of that to allot extra funds for these three States and try to help as much as possible, and even go out of the way in the matter of transmission lines.....
(Interruptions) We can come in provided schemes are prepared by the

[Dr. K.L. Rao]

States. I think we shall be able to assist them appreciably in the next three years by giving loans up to Rs. 20 crores from the Rural Finance Corporation.

As regards the cooperatives, hon. Members said that cooperatives have been set up in some States. The American Rural Electric cooperative people came here at our invitation and they said that would assist the cooperatives by technical advice and finance. We approached the States. None of the States, except 5 or 6, and Madhya Pradesh was one of them offered to take up the cooperatives; most of the States said that they did not want it as they thought that it was something unnecessary. We also did not know very well about them. When these cooperative were set up they had an organised way of dealing with electrification in a large number of villages, bigger units. That way it will be helpful. I propose to persuade the Rural Electrification Corporation to assist in setting up the cooperatives in all the three States. We shall launch a massive attack on the problem.

One other thing remains. Pumping sets can be put up only if there are wells and there is some agricultural activity. I shall write to the Agricultural Ministry. But I would also request the hon. Members from those States to pursue with the State authorities. They must say that there are so many wells in that area which need to be electrified.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You must give electricity to those areas which have got sub-soil water.

DR. K. L. RAO : If you want me to help, there should be some schemes from the States. They should say that there are so many wells. If there are thousand wells they must say that they would irrigate about 10,000 acres if electrification is provided and we shall try to do that.

But to ask me to do those things, will mean a lot of delay. So, anyway, what I want to submit is that I have been thinking of this problem ever since notice was given to (me, as to how I can help in a positive way, interruption).

18 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No questions now. There is no time.

DR. K. L. RAO : One aid will be, to establish the co-operatives; the other is to request the RWC. That, I have already done. That is to give extra assistance. Thirdly, I shall request the Ministry of Agriculture to find out for me the areas where, if we give electricity, they will dig up the wells. Fourthly—and this is the most important thing—I am going to set up one separate cell in the Central water and power Commission for looking after these three States and accelerate the progress of rural electrification.

SHRI JYOYIRMOY BOSU rose—

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has got no time. It is finished.

DR. K.L. RAO : There is one other aspect, which I would subn it, and that is, one difficulty is there especially in respect of North Bihar and North Bengal; there is no power there. It is not only the transmission lines as in other cases, but power. In Orissa, there is power; there are no transmission lines. But in North Bihar and North Bengal, there is the question of power generation. There is very little power generation there. Therefore, what we are trying to do is this. In North Bihar, power is utterly small. There are only 18 mw of power, effective power, whereas the requirement is at least twice at the moment. I think there is a lot of demand; the demand is much more than that. What we have been trying to do as a short term measure is, we are trying to bring in four units of 1,1/2 mw each from other areas and try to set up the units. That is a small thing; and then we are trying to connect Barauni with Dalkoia. The line is ready except for the crossing of Mahananda. I think in the course of the next two months, we shall be able to do that. It is only a low voltage 33 kv line. More than that, we have sanctioned 132 kv line from Barauni to Sitiguri, and also from Ailpur Duar to Bongaigon in Assam. These lines have been sanctioned. The question is one of implementation. There, the hon. Members must go on trying to persuade them. They have been sanctioned.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about North Bihar ?

DR. K. L. RAO : I am coming to it. More than this, we are trying to get transmission lines and power from other places. But apart from this, I have also been feeling strongly that there should be a good power station there. Therefore, I have been asking the engineers for the last two years for suggesting some projects and some proposals. Only three days back, I got this proposal : one from North Bihar and the other from North Bengal. It was just three or four days back. I am trying to get those projects sanctioned. It is only then that we can have some power there. Otherwise, you cannot also extend rural electrification very much in those needy areas.

In regard to North Bihar, the problem is the same. There is very little power there, especially when there is a huge population, and when there are first-class under-ground water resources. But there is no power. We are trying to set up a thermal station; in fact it is already provided for in the Fourth Plan. It is not as if is a new one. But the difficulty has been, where to locate it; in Muzaffarpur or Samastipur.

SHRI N. K. SINHA : Muzaffarpur.

DR. K. L. RAO : Muzaffarpur seems to be better because it should be as distant as possible from Barauni.

But unfortunately, there is no broad gauge line; the broad gauge stops at Samastipur.

I have been waiting for the railway people to see whether they will extend the line or indicate any other direction, because when you rehandle the coal, the cost goes up. But I told my officers to have it at Samastipur though it is not a very satisfactory thing, because it is nearer Barauni. It should be really further off. I have waited nearly one year for that process. But nothing has happened. So, I will try to decide whether we shall go in for Samastipur itself. So, we shall try to push up that project.

As I said, there will be one or two projects near Katihar or the West Bengal-Bihar border. Unless we generate power, the question of rural electrification cannot receive an emphasis in these two areas. I have been mentioning that to my officers also. As I said, about the transmission line, we will be able to do it at a much faster rate.

I again thank the hon. Members for raising a discussion on this very important subject. I only appeal to them to follow it up with sustained interest and try to get as much assistance as possible.

18.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, June 14, 1971/Jyais-
tha 24, 1893 (SAKA)*