

**PROF. K. V. THOMAS :** I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that in Kerala the train called 307 and 308 was earlier stopping at the station in my constituency...

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** Mr. Thomas, it is not connected with the present question. So, please sit down.

**Low Power Generation by Faridabad Thermal Power Station**

\*124. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power generation at Faridabad Thermal Power Plant is only 8 M.W. instead of 195 M.W. ;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the activities of the workers union have contributed to this situation; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in this matter ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :** (a) It is not correct to say that the power generation at Faridabad thermal power station is only 8 M.W. The average power generation was 58 M.W. in January, 1985 and 78 MW in February, 1985 as against the installed capacity of 195 M.W.

(b) and (c) The low generation was primarily on account of problem of coal mills, poor quality of raw water and overstaffing, indiscipline & other personnel problems amongst others.

(d) Besides measures being taken to overcome the personnel problems, a comprehensive renovation and modernisation programme to improve the performance of the power station has been taken up.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as regards thermal power station in the country, the example of Faridabad is before you. The Thermal Power Station at Faridabad must have been set up after approval from the Central Electricity Board. In reply to the question about the date of its installation, its capacity and the actual utilisation of its capacity, year-wise, it has been stated that—

[*English*]

“The average power generation was 58 M.W. in January, 1985 and 78 M.W. in February, 1985 as against the installed capacity of 195 M.W.”

[*Translation*]

I would like to know how much loss has been incurred due to under-utilisation of the installed capacity and the details of the loss, yearwise. Who is responsible for this and what action has been taken against him? Who is guilty and who has been punished? Have you terminated the services of any of the officers who were responsible for it? I would like to know if anybody is accountable for this or not.

[*English*]

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** The installed capacity, as stated earlier, is 195 M.W. A 15 M.W. unit was commissioned in February, 1966. Unit one of 60 MW capacity was commissioned in November, 1974. Unit two of 60 M.W. were commissioned in March, 1976. Three units of 60 MW were commissioned in April, 1981.

It is true that the performance of these units is not satisfactory due to many reasons. Regarding the plant load-factor of the 15 MW unit, I would like to say that during 1984-85, April to February, the plant load factor is 41.80. The plant load factor of the other units are as above :—

Unit No. 1.	(60 MW)	14.30
Unit No. 2.	(60 MW)	38.40
Unit No. 3.	(60 MW)	29.50

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Who is managing it ?

AN HON. MEMBER : Let it be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI B. SAANKARANAND : His question needs a veeey detailed answer.

The House should expect me to give a detailed answer.

The reasons for poor performance are the following :—

- (1) Poor performance of the hammer type coal mines which require replacement after about 100 working hours.
- (2) Poor quality of raw water from Gurgaon canal which is causing algae growth in the cooling tower and also chocking of condenser tubes
- (3) High axial shift due to salt deposits on the blades or HP rotor in case of 60 MW units.
- (4) Frequent failure of economiser and platen tubes.
- (5) Erratic coal flow to the mills from bunkers.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I request that this may be laid on the Table of the House. The reply is lengthy.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If the Minister is lengthy, he may be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Steps are being taken to put proper persons in proper places to manage the affairs of these units.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What happened for all these years ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I asked for reason why the generation at Faridabad Thermal Power Plant is only C.M.W. He has not answered that Mr. Deputy-Speaker, will you kindly ask the Minister to reply to my question ? I have put a specific question and I request him to answer this question and also inform us about the role of the management. Let him answer these questions.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU : Sir, in Haryana, last year, the plant load factor was 34% which was very poor. The Hon. Member will be happy to know that in the month of February, it was 48% which is a substantial improvement.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I have to put my second supplementary.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have already put the question.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Sir, he has given certain reasons—

[*Translation*]

—When did you come to know about these reasons and how much time did you take for correcting them ?

[*English*]

SHRI B. SAANKARANAND : Sir, I have already given the years of commissioning.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : When did you come to know of all these reasons ? What steps did you take to rectify them ? Sir, he has only said that these are the reasons.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : My friend is imagining that all these things have come to my notice all at once which is not possible. They have com-

to our notice whenever they occurred. But with a view to improve performance a comprehensive renovation and modernisation programme for the power station had been prepared under the Centrally sponsored scheme for renovation and modernisation. The programme is expected to cost about Rs. 39.66 crores, out of which Rs. 19.39 crores will be given as central assistance. The scheme has been considered by the Central Electricity Authority.

**SHRI H.M. PATEL :** Sir, the point is really very interesting. Why is it that in these power stations, the generation is only a fraction of their installed capacity? You have given the various reasons for this. Were these not considered at the time of the project plan was prepared? Did they not foresee the difficulties that have now cropped up? Were they sudden unforeseen happenings which could not have been foreseen by them? You have not answered one important question that was put by him. Has anybody been found responsible for the failure of this power station? If so, what steps did you take against him or in connection with the shortfall or is it merely that nobody has been found responsible?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** I have already given the plant load factor. My colleague has already given it and how it has improved. It has come to 48%. That means that there is improvement in the functioning of station.

**SHRI H.M. PATEL :** I have put a very clear question. Who was responsible for this failure? Was this not foreseen when the project was prepared?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** Please listen to me fully and have patience. The problems of the various power stations are envisaged when they are put up and due care is always taken to see that such problems do not arise later. But in spite of it, certain problems do arise for which no indi-

vidual person is responsible and the question of taking any action against anybody does not arise.

**SHRI H.M. PATEL :** This is not the correct reply. This is a blatant evasion of the reply. I really put to him this question. There are so many power stations in this country. I want to know how many power stations that have been installed have failed to generate such a small fraction of their installed capacity. Even if the actual generation of power by this station were to be doubted; it would still be only a fraction of the total installed capacity. How many such stations are there in the country with such low generation?

You say that various relevant aspects are considered before setting up power stations and if they fail, they fail for no reason and nobody is responsible. How is it possible? I may tell you that I have been myself responsible for a number of power stations when I was Chairman of an Electricity Board. And certainly if there had been this kind of performance, there would have been serious trouble for any number of people.....(*Interruptions*). I am astonished. Minister must be good enough to give an honest reply. If he is unable to give a satisfactory reply, he may say that he has no answer for it.

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** I am happy to know that the Hon. Member was Chairman of an Electricity Board himself. I do not know, he said that himself. And I do not know whether he wants to say that he was responsible for what had happened in these power stations. I do not take it that way... ..(*Interruptions*).

I have given reasons for poor performance and I have never said that the power station is performing in a good way. This is not my contention. I have said that it is not performing very well. I have given reasons also for the poor performance and I have also told the House what action I am going to take to improve the situation.

**SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :** Will the Hon. Minister let the House know whether the Government is aware of the fact that there was a demand from the engineers of the HSEB that the HSEB should be headed by a technocrat? Since its inception it was being headed by bureaucrats. Has there been any improvement after the Board is being headed by an engineer? Is it also a fact that there is some sort of a tussle because of the wholesale transfers of engineers, not one, but about eighty, by the HSEB authorities and it has adversely affected the functioning of the plants?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** It is not correct to say that it is because of these personnel problems that the performance is very poor ..... (*Interruptions*). He mentioned about the wholesale transfer of engineers. I do not think, this is the reason for the poor performance.

**AN HON. MEMBER :** This is not the answer.

**New Line Connecting Jalpaiguri with Siliguri Jn.**

\*125. **SHRI ANAND PATHAK**  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a proposal for construction of a new Broad Gauge-cum-Metro Gauge line connecting New Jalpaiguri with Siliguri Junction via Rangapani and thus avoid frequent traffic jams in the heart of Siliguri town; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the above proposal in the larger interest of the people of North Bengal?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) :** (a) No Sir, However, as an alternative to construction of road over bridge

in replacement of level crossing on Hilcart Road in Siliguri, N.F. Railway submitted a proposal to divert the existing MG/NG lines between Siliguri town and New Jalpaiguri stations along the east bank of the Mahananda river to avoid traffic congestion in Siliguri town.

(b) As the diversion of Railway line is in lieu of Road Over Bridge, the State Government of West Bengal has been requested to agree to share 50% of the cost as per extant rules.

**SHRI ANAND PATHAK :** Sir, the reply is very vague. My question has not been adequately answered.

Siliguri is a fast developing town and in a sense, it is called the gateway of North Bengal. Thousands of people from different parts of North Bengal, North-Eastern region, Sikkim, Bhutan and other places pass through Siliguri and all the essential commodities etc. are also transported for these areas through Siliguri. The level crossing and the railway gate near Siliguri town Station have stood as stumbling blocks for the smooth flow of traffic. The gate remains closed quite frequently, several times during the day as well night. This causes serious traffic congestion in the busiest business centre of the town, and the road communication is dislocated for hours together.

All the people, mass organisations and political parties of the North Bengal have been demanding removal of the rail gate and diversion of the line from Rangapani. I would like to know whether the Government will consider this most vital demand of the people and adopt remedial measures immediately.

**SHRI BANSI LAL :** It can be done only if the State Government pays 50 per cent, except the land cost.

**SHRI ANAND PATHAK :** It is stated that the NFR is also in favour