

south of Saurashtra and to the south of Pipavav, this Tapti Gas Field has been discovered. Now, we have a proposal to develop this Gas Field and the line will be taken directly from this Tapti Gas Field to Pipavav. Of course, the power plant is to be established here. We will supply gas to it and the details of the project have to be prepared by the Power Department or by the State Government who will implement it. We have got a proposal to develop this and lay a pipeline directly from Tapti to Pipavav. Joining Saurashtra to other parts of Gujarat will be a very costly affair. But we have got another proposal also to join Kalol to Ankleshwar, laying a grid which will be more useful and the optimum utilisation of gas will be possible through this. So, I entirely agree with the spirit of the question, but the HBJ pipeline will be HBJ pipeline only.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is a saying in Punjabi—

'Pancha da akhya sir mathe, parnala othe hi girega.'

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: 'Parnala' is falling in Pipavav. He is requesting about Saurashtra and I agree to that.

[English]

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Sir, the Minister replied about Ankleshwar to Kalol would be an alignment totally outside the Saurashtra peninsula. Therefore, what I specially say is that, in any case gas is going to be sent from the Tapti High to Pipavav to feed the 600 MW power station. Then why can't this be considered to have a part of the HBJ pipeline which can go beyond Delhi or wherever it is. The HBJ pipeline can be half put in Hazira and the other in Pipavav so that the two can meet in Gujarat itself and from there go to Jagdispur or to Delhi. Therefore, would the Government consider examining this proposal in depth and study the feasibility of this to ascertain whether there are any shortfalls?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Sir, how can we bifurcate the HBJ pipeline? I fail to understand. I have already submitted that we are laying a pipeline from Tapti to Pipavav and it will be developed in Saurashtra according to the availability of gas in Tapti Gas Field which is more productive. We are aware of the difficulties of Saurashtra, but I was talking only of the financial viability and the desirability of having the maximum benefit at a lower cost.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Could the proposal be examined?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: All the proposals made by the Gujarat Government and other agencies are under our active consideration.

SHRI C.P. THAKUR: Sir, in a recent meeting, the Prime Minister has announced that the gas pipeline will be extended to Bihar. Power and fertiliser are in short supply.

MR. SPEAKER: No; next question.

#### Mass Leave by Public Sector Undertaking Officers

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\*304. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP:  
SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector undertaking officers observed mass leave on 11 July, 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and how many persons joined the mass leave;

(c) the details of their demands and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(d) whether they have threatened to go on indefinite strike?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

**STATEMENT**

(a) to (d). A number of officers of Central Public Sector Undertakings is reported to have gone on mass casual leave on 11th July, 1989 demanding immediate implementation of the recommendations made by the High Power Pay Committee in respect of 69 public enterprises which had been following the Central Government DA pattern. These officers had also demanded extension of the benefits recommended by the HPPC including Central DA to other public sector undertakings. The recommendations made by the HPPC are under active consideration of the Government. Decision would also be taken in respect of pay revision of the officers/executives of the enterprises which hitherto follow the Industrial DA formula. Government is not aware whether any notice for indefinite strike has been given by the Officers to the Management.

Information in respect of the number of the executives who actually proceeded on mass casual leave is not available with the Government.

SHRI G.S. GHOLAP: Sir, while it is admitted that the officers have gone on mass casual leave on the 11th July, the figure of persons who have joined the mass casual leave is not given. I want to know whether the figure was called for and if so, why it is not made available to us. What was the tentative percentage who joined the mass casual leave? I also want to know whether it was limited to 69 Corporations or others.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: There are 235 public undertakings and how is it possible to collect all the figures throughout the country. The actual question is about the action taken. It is, no work, no-pay on that day.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: When this report was made available, what is the action taken. When the decision is likely to be taken by the Government?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: As I submitted, the action taken is only, no work-no pay. On

that account, there is no punishment. Only they will not get the pay for that day.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has replied in a very casual manner. I fail to understand this kind of reply for such an important question where ninety thousand crores of the nation's money is involved. Government may be doing well as far as infrastructure of industries is concerned but the management and executives are responsible for motivating strikes resorted to by the lower-level employees. So much freedom has been given to the management in the name of autonomy that they are acting almost like monarchs and making extravagant expenditures which have become a burden on the national exchequer. The hon. Minister has not given us a list of the employees who have gone on strike. May I know if the hon. Minister is trying to shield the guilty and if not, how is he going to punish those culprits who are blocking the progress of the public sector industries?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, there are 235 public undertakings and the employees are 22.21 lakhs. Out of this, 19.81 lakhs are on industrial side.....

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: We want to know what action he has taken till now. There is no use going through the figures. What action have you taken against those who were on mass casual leave?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: I told you very clearly about the action. On that day, no-work-no-pay.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: After all, they are part of management. They cannot go on mass casual leave. I do not agree with the answer given by the Minister because.....

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want your answer.

**KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:** Sir, the Minister does not have the figures. But I am giving the figures to the Minister. More than 50,000 public sector undertaking officers stayed away from work on the 11th July. Because their demand is very genuine, Government had set up a High-Powered Pay Committee. They have recommended proper implementation of DA, as the Minister has already stated, about proper implementation of DA like Central Government employees. The hon. Minister stated in his reply that they demanded extension of the benefit recommended by the HPPC including Central DA to other public sector undertakings. The recommendations made by HPPC are under the active consideration of the Government. Government has already stated this. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when Government is going to implement this High Powered Pay Commission report relating to the Central Government in the public sector offices

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** First of all, I submit that I do not agree with the figures given by the hon. Member.

**KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:** Why don't you agree with the figures? You have no figures with you

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** My answer to the second supplementary is, for the present the matter is before the Supreme Court. The matter stands adjourned to 25th August, 1989 on the representation made by Mr. Datta, learned Additional Solicitor General and he produced a copy of the instructions in writing to Additional Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Industry, Bureau of Public Enterprises. It has been made exclusively clear to him that no further adjournment would be granted on any ground if decision is not taken by 25th August, 1989 and if he does not report the Government decision to court, the court would be free to make its own order.

**KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:** What is the Minister's reply? It is no reply. The hon.

Minister should give reply. Is this the Minister's reply? If you say that my figures are wrong, then give me the correct figures.

**SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:** The hon. Minister has taken it very lightly.

**SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:** This is a very important matter.

**SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:** Let there be Half-an-Hour Discussion on it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Next Question.

[*Translation*]

#### **Allotment of Industrial plots in Patparganj, Delhi**

\*308 **SHRI MADAN PANDEY:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 11 April, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 5690 regarding allotment of industrial plots in Patparganj, Delhi and state:

(a) whether applications for allotment of industrial plots in Patparganj area of Delhi have since been examined;

(b) if so, the number of applications being included in the draw and the number rejected,

(c) the number of women entrepreneurs whose applications have been accepted and whose rejected; and

(d) the time table drawn for holding the draw and for the refund of rejected applications?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). A statement is given below.