

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN:** As I said already, whenever there is lack of technical knowledge, we will get it. If you want details, we shall ask the Engineers to send a final report.

श्री शिव प्रसाद साहू : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान बिहार राज्य के पतराहुत बिजली घर की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। जहाँ तक मुझे जानकारी है ...

**MR. SPEAKER:** No. This does not arise. Now, Prof. Dandavate.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister that for the generation of hydro-electric power, since in large portions of the Himalayan sector there are a number of rivers which had been unexplored in the generation of this type of power, in the new scheme of the projects that you propose, will you take that factor into account so as to solve the question of power shortage in our country?

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN:** The knowledge that we are going in for is basically for the Himalayan region.

श्रीमती कृष्णा साहू : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बिहार प्रान्त में बिजली के उत्पादन की क्षमता 750 मेगावाट होनी चाहिए लेकिन 250 मेगावाट ही होती है। उत्पादन क्षमता में क्हास है। इसको देखते हुए क्या मंत्री महोदय बिहार में हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिक प्रोजेक्ट की स्थापना करने का विचार रखते हैं ?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Next question, Shri Kodiyan. Not here, Shri Sushil Bhattacharya.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** There should be penalty for a Member if he absents because it is a loss of so much of money in preparing an answer for the question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Each Member of this House should realise his own responsibility.

**PROF. N. G. RANGA:** If he does not remain present, he can authorise another Member.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He should do it. This should be done. Q. No. 125.

### Supply of Kerosene to West Bengal

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\*125. **SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:**

**SHRI RUP CHAND PAL:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the demand, allotment and supply of Kerosene oil to West Bengal from January, 1980 to May, 1980;

(b) whether it is a fact that the demands of West Bengal are ignored; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):** (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### Statement

(a) The West Bengal Government have indicated a minimum monthly requirement of 40,000 metric tonnes of kerosene for the State. The following are the details of allocations and sales of kerosene in the State for the period January to May, 1980:

(Figures in metric tonnes)

Month	Allocation	Supply
January 80	28,900	32,040
February '80	28,452	27,604
March '80	31,098	31,380
April '80	34,456	31,833 (Provisional)
May '80	34,500	29,600 (Provisional)

(b) The kerosene allocations are made after taking into account the overall availability of the product, historical sales and movement capacity.

(c) Does not arise.

**SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:** Mr. Speaker, I have some supplementary questions.

In the context of the kerosene allocated and supplied, if I quote some figures from Maharashtra, West Bengal and Gujarat, it will be seen that during January 1980, when the population of Maharashtra was 5 crores and 4 lakhs or so, the supply of kerosene was 74,730 tonnes whereas in West Bengal, when the population was 4,043 lakhs and odd, the kerosene supplied was only 32,000 tonnes. And, if I take the figure for Gujarat—of course, all these figures are according to 1971 census—it had 2.67 crores of population but the kerosene supplied was 33,854 tonnes. So, you find there is some anomaly in the supply. My question is: What is the criteria in respect of fixing the kerosene quota for the States? Is it uniformly followed all over India. If not, why?

**SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:** I would like to submit that the supply of kerosene oil is not on the basis of the population. It is on the basis of the supply or consumption of the previous year. That is the criteria. Whatever we had supplied during 1979 which was a normal year—there was no shortage at that time—taking that into account we are supplying to the States much more than we had supplied during 1979. The hon'ble Member is trying to make a point that we have been supplying more to Gujarat and Maharashtra and not to West Bengal. That is not so. We are supplying less to Gujarat and Maharashtra and more to West Bengal.

**SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:** Whether the Central Government's policy in respect of actual requirements, allotment and supply of kerosene oil crisis, non-availability, shortage, high prices, black-marketing etc?

**SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:** Sir I have already given in the supplement any note the details about the allocations for different States. It has not been possible to supply the kerosene oil to that extent because of difficulty in Barauni and other refineries. What-

ever we have allocated we have not been able to supply but I can assure the hon'ble Member that there was no shortage during this period.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Sir the West Bengal government has estimated its monthly requirements at 40,000 tonnes per month. In view of what the Minister has said, could we take it that they do not consider this estimated requirement of 40,000 tonnes of the State Government to be correct? Are they suggesting that this is an over-estimate because I find their allocation every month from January to May has been considerably short of 40,000 tonnes. Sometimes the shortage is to the tune of 12,000 tonnes and sometimes it is 6,000 to 8,000 tonnes. Is it because of shortage of kerosene due to trouble in Barauni or do they consider the estimate of the West Bengal government to be unjustified?

**SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:** They have said that they require 40,000 tonnes. I think they have worked out this requirement on the basis of population whereas our supply is not based on the basis of the population but on the basis of consumption that was during 1979. So far as West Bengal is concerned, their consumption and sale in the corresponding period June 1979 was 24,941 tonnes whereas we have allocated to them 25,790 tonnes. It is 3.4 per cent more than what we had supplied. (Interruptions).

I have made it very clear that 1979 was a normal period and we have been supplying more than the quantity consumed in 1979.

#### **Delay in Execution of Fertiliser Projects**

**\*128. SHRI CHITTA BASU:**  
**SHRI CHANDRABHAN**  
**ATHARE PATIL:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in the execution of four giant-gas based fertilisers projects in Maharashtra and Gujarat;