

it. But we have advised them that Government will not take the responsibility for any dispute, legal or otherwise, that occurs between the people of Formosa and the Indian trader or the Government of Formosa and the Indian trader or corporation. Government have warned them, Government have advised them, that if they do it, they are doing it at their own risk. (*Interruption*)

#### Sharavathy Hydro-Electric Project

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\*124. SHRI B. V. NAIK :  
SHRI ARJUN SETHI :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether patent defects of serious nature have come to light in the execution work of the Rs. 120 crores Sharavathy hydro-electric Project ; and

(b) if so, the nature of such defects and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). The State Government have reported that the pelton wheels have received scratches and dents due to hitting by stones from the pressure tunnel lining. It is proposed to stop generation of power from 19th of this month and carry out the repairs to the tunnels and other affected structures.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : I had asked a specific question whether there were patent defects of a serious nature and if so, the nature of such defects. I think, the answer that has been given is only in respect of (b), as though there are only some dents and scratches. I had asked a very specific question whether there were serious defects or not. I have not received an answer—'yes' or 'no'.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : There are no serious defects. The only defect that has been noticed and reported is in the lining of the tunnel. There were a few soft patches here and there and some stones had come out. We anticipate that those stones must have travelled on to the machine and caused the dent on the pelton wheel. That is the main defect. The other was the scour at the head sluice of the power channel taking off from Lingana Maki

dam. But that is a small thing that can be repaired. I do not think that there is any kind of serious trouble with the Sharavathy Project.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : There is a considerable controversy going on in the press about it regarding the holding of an inquiry. On the basis of the reports received, we hear that the State Government has reported, and may I know whether the report of the State Government has been taken as *prima facie* true or whether it would be considered advisable, in view of the controversy that has been raging in the press about the Sharavathy Project, irrespective of the facts of the case, to depute a central team to investigate so that the public may be disabused of misapprehensions, if there be any, in regard to the Sharavathy Project ?

DR. K. L. RAO : The Sharavathy tunnel will be closed from the 19th of this month and the Mysore Government has asked us for technical assistance. So, we are sending two of our experts. When the tunnel is empty and the water is dried and taken out, they will go into the tunnel and inspect. If there are any defects found, the officers will be reporting to us.

SHRI P. R. SHENOY : May I know the estimated cost of the repairs and also the estimated loss ?

DR. K. L. RAO : About the cost of repairs, I will not be able to say straightaway but it will be very negligible, of the order of Rs. 1 or 2 lakhs.

The loss of power may be considerable. It is an important power station. It has been supplying power of the order of 600 megawatts. It is a pity that we have to shut down. We are not going to shut it down completely. There are two tunnels. One tunnel only will be shut down at a time. There will still be a loss of about 200-300 megawatts of power.

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR : How long will the power supply remain suspended and what is the alternative arrangement for supply of power ?

DR. K. L. RAO : As I said just now the power station will not be shut down completely. Five machines will be running sometimes and at other times another penstock with three machines will be running. It is expected that the repairs will take about a fortnight's time.

The power available in Mysore other than from Sharavathy is 200 megawatts. We expect to get some power from the Tungabhadra, the Andhra share also, and some power from Maharashtra also. I hope in the finality, we may be short of about 100 megawatts. But we can't help it.

**SHRI N. SHIVAPPA :** During the last month, the Irrigation and Power Minister of the Mysore State met the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power at Delhi with regard to the damages that had occurred and had a discussion with him. What was the understanding arrived at? Is the work to be taken up or is the work to be stopped? How long will it be stopped and if so, who will be held responsible for the past mistakes and damages?

**DR. K. L. RAO :** As I have submitted, we had a discussion and as a result of the discussion the information has been given.

They asked our technical assistance and I said two of our good officers will be assisting them in the repairs, and if the reported defects are only those which we have presumed, that is to say, damage to the lining of the tunnel here and there, I do not think the damage is of any serious nature and nobody can be held responsible. But I cannot say anything now. It depends upon the inspection. As I said, I will wait for the inspection report of my officers.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Shri Pampan Gowda—absent.

#### Central Authority for Power Generation

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\*126. **SHRI ARVIND NETAM :**  
**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM**  
**KAKODKAR :**

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government of India have taken a decision regarding the setting up of a Central Authority to look after power generation in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SRI B. N. KUREEL) :** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the house.

#### Statement

(a) and (b). Presently, coordination of matters regarding power is affected mainly through the agency of Central Water and Power Commission. The principal activities of power generation and supply are in the hands of State Electricity Boards, licensees and departments of State Governments. The Central Electricity Authority constituted under the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 has been assigned specific functions under the Act which are generally of a coordinating nature in respect of planning of power development in the country. At the time of formulation of the legislation, the power supply development was on a small scale and was restricted to major urban areas excepting in a few States where power supply was extended to some rural areas also. Since the commencement of planned development, power supply industry has progressed rapidly and the installed capacity which was about 2.3 million kW in 1950 has reached over 17 million kW by 1971-72. In spite of this rapid development, power is in short supply and compared to the advanced countries the per capita consumption is very low and is only about 90 kWh/year. In order to achieve at least a reasonable per capita consumption figure of 250 kWh by 1980-81, it would be necessary to achieve the target of about 52 million kW installed generating capacity by then. In this context it is felt that a strong Central organisation should be set up so as to play an active and effective role in the power development of the country. Such a body would also enable adoption of uniform power policy throughout the country.

The Conference of State Ministers of Irrigation and Power held in June/July, 1972 recognising the need for reorganising the organisational structure of the power supply industry at the Central and State levels recommended amending the existing legislation on Electricity. Proposals in this regard will be finalised in consultation with State Governments.

The Conference was also of the view that for the Fifth Plan the generation by Central Government may be for large inter-State power projects or by way of supplementing the power generation by the States and the Policy of generation may be reviewed further for subsequent Plans.

श्री अरविन्द नेताम : अध्यक्ष जी, गत जून-जुलाई, 1972 में जो राज्यों के इरिगेशन और