

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a Supplementary. This is a very sensitive question. Several states have been complaining that their schemes have been kept waiting for such a long time. New Departments have been brought into existence, the Central responsibility has been extended for forest, environment, ecology and all sorts of things, with the result that delay is taking place. My hon. friend, the Minister, says, 'If the House feels such a sense of urgency', then what does it mean? There should be some kind of an Inter-departmental or Inter-ministerial Committee between two or three concerned Cabinet Ministers so that they will be able to speed up these things. Now, each Ministry goes on to the Planning Commission; the Planning Commission delays. The Planning Commission has become a super Cabinet today. Therefore, may I suggest that the hon. Minister should approach the Planning Commission as well as the Prime Minister and see to it that some mechanism, some administrative means is devised so that these concerned Cabinet Ministers and their Secretaries would sit together and see that these projects are speedy up—the taking up these projects and their execution. Otherwise, it is such a scandal, 21 projects are held up... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, 41 projects.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: I am sorry, I stand corrected. Forty-one projects are kept pending and so many other projects so far as the Industries Minister also is concerned. Therefore, it is high time that my hon. friends, the Industry Minister and the Energy Minister, would put their heads together with the Prime Minister and devise some means by which they can possibly speed up these things.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I am highly obliged to our seniormost colleague for his very valuable suggestion and advice.

Sir, I remember Pandit Jawaharlalji had once said, "If the politicians learn the art of saying 'no' and bureaucrats learn the art of

saying 'yes', we will have a revolution in this country." I hope, Sir, the advice given by the most senior Member, the Bhishmacharya of our Parliament, will be heeded to by the concerned people and we will find some way to solve this problem. (Interruptions)

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN: Sir, we do appreciate the anxiety of the Minister to generate more power. This is a bottleneck, no doubt. There are certain projects which have already been cleared by the Forest Ministry and Ecological Department but due to lack of funds four projects are not being started. For instance, in my constituency, Baglehar and Sawarkot projects have already been cleared in June, but the Ministry does not sanction any fund to start these projects. May I ask the hon. Minister to look into the matter and send more funds to these projects?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I will look into the matter.

Power cut by Kalpakkam and Ramagundam Power Stations

*209. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the steps undertaken by Kalpakkam and Ramagundam power stations to avoid power cuts to domestic consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):
(a) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

All the power generated by the Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station and Kalpakkam Atomic Power Station is fed into the regional grid, and the same is shared by the beneficiary States in the region, as per their entitlement. The Central generating stations supply power in bulk to the beneficiary States. The responsibility for the distribution of electricity to the consumers and the avoid power cuts rests with the concerned State Electricity Authorities.

SHRI N. DENNIS: Sir, there is acute power shortage in Tamil Nadu and there are frequent high percentage of power cuts. The supply is far below the demands. The situation will improve only on getting substantial power supply from Kalpakkam and also from Ramagundam. There is failure of power generation in Kalpakkam due to leakage in the Calender in tubes and also in Ramagundam due to strike in Singareni Collieries. Therefore, may I know from the hon. the hon. Minister, the proposals that are with the Government for the improvement of power situation in Tamil Nadu and also may I know the steps taken by the Government for the normal functioning of these two power stations at Kalpakkam and Ramagundam?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Sir, as far as Kalpakkam is concerned, it is a Nuclear Power Station and it is stabilising. There were certain difficulties. They have been corrected and I am told that very soon it will be able to produce according to schedule and the power supply will get regularised. As far as Ramagundam is concerned, it is a Central Station set up in Andhra Pradesh, but the power is shared by all the States in the Southern Region. So, every State gets share according to its determined share in the region by the Regional Board. Sir, I entirely agree with the hon. Member that the Southern Region is having substantial power shortage. It is mainly because of serious fall in the rainfall in the past few years which is affecting the Hydal Power Projects which sustain the Southern Region. The Southern Region is far off from the coal belt except Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, it is not easy to set up Thermal Power Station in that part. So, we try now to correct this situation by setting up nuclear power stations and we are also setting up coal-based power station on the coastal side. In addition, gas has been found. So, gas-based power stations are also proposed in the coming two Plans, the Eighth and the Ninth Five Year Plans, by the year 2,000 AD, just about ten years from now. We are planning to have projects in Mangalore (Karnataka) 2,420 MW; Kayamkulam (Kerala) 2,420 MW; Kudankulam Nuclear Station (Tamil Nadu)

of 2,000 MW; Kaiga Nuclear Station 940 MW; Neyveli Expansion of 1,050 MW and another unit of 420 MW. Then the proposal is for 1,500 MW, Maniguru of 1,000 MW and Godavari Gas of 800 MW. From Central sector, about 10,000 MW worth of projects are being proposed in the next two Five Year Plans in the Southern sector. In addition, the States also have their projects and they, hydel and thermal, amount to about equal megawatt of another 10,000. So, 20,000 MW of capacity will be installed in the Southern region in the next two Plans and I hope that will help to reduce the situation of power in the Southern region.

SHRI N. DENNIS: Both the two units of Kalpakkam have been shut down for some time. May I know whether these two units are brought to operation? How long is the leakage in calendrin tubes in Kalpakkam persists? Is there any proposal for restoring it within a time-limit and is there full capacity of electricity generated in Kalpakkam? If not, may I know the capacity of generation and whether there are proposals for improving and restoring it to full capacity of generation?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will try to get the information. We only distribute the power generated from the Kalpakkam nuclear power stations. I will try to get all the information that the hon. Member has asked, from the Department of Atomic Energy which is running this Station and pass it on to him.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: The hon. Minister has said that the power generated from Ramagundam Power Station is distributed among the Southern States. From the Ramagundam Power Station, power has been allotted by the Centre to the State of Kerala but the hon. Minister must be aware that, that power which has been transmitted to Kerala has been stolen—if that word can be used—by the Andhra Pradesh Government. Even though the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and the Kerala Chief Minister are one for ousting the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister did not allow the Central power to reach the State of Kerala.

Again, I would like to know whether you are aware of the fact that there is allegation and it has appeared in the newspapers also, that this stealing of power by the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister was done with the connivance of the State Government of Kerala, the Minister of Electricity of Kerala. This was reported in the newspaper and also it was mentioned in the Kerala Assembly. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that power allotted to the State of Kerala by the Centre has been tapped by the Andhra Pradesh Government. And also, I would like to know whether these allegations are there, if so, what is his reaction and what action would he like to take?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Power is allotted from the central stations to the four States in the region by the Regional Board. There is 15 percent reserve for the Centre which also is given to the States in the region. Now, Sir, there is no direct transmission possible from Ramagundam to Kerala. It has to go through the grid of the Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, if there is some tapping in between, as you have stated—I am not aware of this report. But there is a saying in Hindi 'chor-chor mousere bhai' if both have colluded and if there is some power that has been taken away which is due to Kerala, by an agreement with Kerala, we really cannot come in the picture. We have no control over it. But, I hope that Kerala will not allow its power to be taken away by any other State in the region.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: As a responsible Member, I am making an allegation that power allotted by the Centre to Kerala has been taken away. Will you conduct an enquiry into this matter? Will you order an inquiry?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have no control on this. Power distribution is a State subject and I cannot inquire into it. But this information as you have put on the Table now will become a public property and I hope, notice will be taken of that.

[Translation]

Investment in Public Sector Projects in Bihar

*210. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made so far by Union Government in public sector projects in Bihar; and

(b) the details of these projects, the employment potential created thereby and the number of local people benefited therefrom?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The investment in Central Public Sector Enterprises in terms of gross block in the State of Bihar as on 31.3.1988 upto which date only the information is available was Rs. 7614.58 crores.

(b) There are 14 Central Public Enterprises set up with registered offices in the State of Bihar. Number of public sector enterprise employees in Bihar is 4.50 lakhs. Details of local people employed are not available.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated so far, an amount of Rs. 7614.58 crores has been invested in Bihar. I would like to ask him how much of this amount was invested after the Second Five Year Plan?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Bihar ranks tenth in terms of population. It occupies the fifth position in terms of area. In terms of investment, it occupies the fourth place. It occupies the fourth place in terms of employment.