

have spoken. But, Sir, he may have been the solitary speaker but I must say in all fairness that he has very eloquently and very strongly put forward almost all the points relating to that State. I do remember last time also he referred to the question of setting up of consultative committee. It is a matter which is taken up with Home Ministry. Again it will be taken up. As far as I know probably there is no provision for Union Territory for having such consultative committee. But I am sure they will look into the suggestion made. So far as the other points are concerned, I am told, none of the work is suffering. Regarding teachers salaries and such matters if there is any specific complaint it can be looked into.

MR. SPEAKER: About the other points you can send them to proper quarters for consideration.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I will forward all the points raised by the hon. Member to the Ministries concerned, and I am sure they will be considered.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation for certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for the services of the financial year 1976-77, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: We take up clause-by-clause consideration. There are 10 amendments.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

12.28 hrs.

ELECTRICITY (SUPPLY) AMENDMENT BILL

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT): Sir, I beg to move*:

"That the Bill further to amend the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, be taken into consideration".

The hon. Members are aware that the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, was originally framed in 1948 when we were just starting the planned development of the power sector. This Act provided the framework for the growth of the industry. During the last nearly 30 years there has been no major change in the structure of the organisation for the power industry in the country. The power sector has, meanwhile, recorded phenomenal growth, with the installed capacity increasing ten-fold in the period 1950-1975.

Fast growing organisations require periodic reviews of their structure, so as to adjust to the changing demands

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri K. C. Pant]

being placed upon them due to growth. In the power sector restructuring was also necessitated by other factors. In recent years it has become necessary to introduce greater sophistication in the planning and execution of power projects. The easier hydro electric projects have already been constructed and the construction of the power houses near load centres is not necessarily the best way of meeting the power demand. The introduction of extra high voltage transmission, as well as the increase in the size of the power generating units have enlarged our policy alternatives. The power sector has also become highly capital intensive and in our country where capital is a scarce resource, we have to optimise its use. A national policy which would optimise the use of all resources and thus minimise cost, is clearly essential. The existing Act framed so many years ago is inadequate for achieving this purpose.

The development of technology in the power sector has made it necessary that those employed in it should attain higher levels of specialisation. At the same time the very size of the power industry, the capital employed; the annual turnover etc. have increased so much that many of the Electricity Boards today are amongst the largest public sector undertakings in the country.

Much attention has been devoted in past years to the introduction of modern management techniques in industries having much smaller turnover and which are also not of the same importance to the health of the national economy. Clearly, the power sector also needs the benefits of modern management.

An important change which has occurred over the last 28 years has been the virtual elimination of the private sector from the power industry. This has been in pursuance of Govern-

ment's policy as laid down in the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. At the time when the Act was framed, there were a number of licensees. In the changed context, the role in licensees is now marginal.

Keeping all these factors in view, the Government had, in 1974, considered the restructuring and reorganisation of the electricity industry. We had fully consulted the State Governments and the amendments to the Act were drafted taking their views into account. Under the act the States are largely responsible for the generation and distribution of electricity and this basic fact is not being changed. However, the Centre would now have a much larger role to play in the planning of the power sector and would also be able to supplement the efforts of the States to generate more power and to deploy it in a more rational and equitable manner.

One of the most important changes being made relates to the structure and functions of the Central Electricity Authority. Section 3 of the 1948 Act provided for the creation of the Central Electricity Authority having not more than six Members, and with four functions listed in Sec. 3 (1). During all these years, the Central Electricity Authority was not created as a fulltime body. The members of the power wing of the Central Water and Power Commission were in that capacity also the members of the Central Electricity Authority. It was felt that to achieve the objectives and also for the future growth of the power industry, the Central Electricity Authority must be strengthened and made into a fulltime body organised to fulfil its new role.

Hon. Members would observe that the functions of the Central Electricity Authority are now being considerably increased. In addition to the Central Electricity Authority being asked to develop a sound, adequate and uniform national power policy, the Central Electricity Authority

would also be required to formulate shortterm and perspective plans for power development and to coordinate the activities of the planning agencies. The Central Electricity Authority would now need to carry out studies relating to cost, efficiency, losses, benefits and such like matters in addition to collecting data on generation, distribution and utilisation of power. This provision is being made particularly to enable the Central Electricity Authority to optimise the use of resource and devise a power plan which would fulfil the objectives of optimising the resource utilisation.

The Central Electricity Authority is being given additional functions which include advising State Governments Electricity Boards and generating companies on matters which would enable them to improve the performance of the power system, assisting these institutions in ensuring timely completion of sanctioned schemes, organising the training of personnel employed in the power sector and promoting research in matters affecting generation, transmission and supply of electricity. In addition, the Central Electricity Authority would have the power of taking up any investigations for the purpose of generating and transmitting power and would advise the Central Government on any matter which is likely to help in improving the power industry in the country.

The hon. Members would note that compared to the earlier Act, the Central Electricity Authority has been given much wider, specific and relevant functions to discharge in respect of the power industry in the country. Its responsibilities and duties are now much broader than in the past and would call for a multidisciplinary approach and the application of expertise of the highest order in several fields. In order to facilitate this, the Act is providing that the Central Electricity Authority shall, in future, be able to have up to 8 fulltime members instead of six as

in the past. In addition, the Central Electricity Authority would also have up to six part-time members. This would enable the association of bodies like the Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and other experts and interested ministries. Qualifications have been prescribed for the fulltime members of the Central Electricity Authority to inculcate professionalism in this body. We are confident that these changes would succeed in providing the right direction and momentum to the planning, construction and operation of the schemes and projects taken up in the power sector.

I have earlier mentioned the need for introducing higher degrees of specialisation. While there is no denying the need for giving wide spectrum of experience to those engineers who move into the higher echelons of management, it is equally necessary that in all the branches of power engineering, the expertise and specialisation are of the highest order. This is intended to be achieved partly through better training facilities, partly through appropriate cadre management practices and partly through organisational changes.

One of the changes which we consider important is the separation of the generation of power from its distribution. The Act accordingly provides for the formation of companies which would be responsible for generating power and selling it in bulk to the State Electricity Boards who would be the distributing agency. However, the hon. Members would note that the formation of such generating companies is not being made compulsory, but the option is being left to the concerned State Governments. This is because the circumstances in all the States are not the same. At the present stage of our development, there would be some States where separation of generation would not be necessary. In addition, there are certain States which do not at present think that they would derive commensurate

[Shri K. C. Pant]

benefits from introducing such separation.

Accordingly, the Bill is only including an enabling provision for the establishment of such generating companies in case the State Governments so desire.

At the Centre we have already, as hon. Members are no doubt aware, in fact, two companies—one for constructing and operating central thermal stations and the other for central hydrostations. The National Thermal Power Corporation would, for example, be responsible for three execution of the super-thermal projects which would meet regional power needs. The National Hydro Power Corporation would for the present, take up the central hydro projects already under execution in the remote parts of our country. As these companies develop, they would provide the basis for the centre to play an important, though supplemental, part in meeting the power needs of the country.

I am sure many of the hon. Members would have observed, that the amendments placed before them do not deal with the financial provision contained in the Electricity Supply Act, 1948. This is not because we consider the financial provisions in the Act adequate or do not give importance to a satisfactory financial structure for the working of the State Electricity Boards and the power industry. In fact, there is no doubt that the financial health of the power industry is essential for its sustained growth. We have been considering changes in the financial provisions of the Act. The process of consultation with the States has been completed.

Considerable progress has been made in finalising the amendments and I hope that, in the near future, I would possibly bring a Bill which would mainly deal with the financial provisions of the Act. The enactment of the present Bill and the Bill which

I hope to bring in later would, I feel, lay the basis for the healthy growth of the power sector in the years to come.

I now commend this Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

DR. SARADISH ROY (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have attentively listened to the speech of the Minister but I find that he has nowhere mentioned the reasons for the need of promulgating the Ordinance by the Centre.

Sir, at the outset I must record my strong feelings against this impropriety of the Government in dealing with this Bill. An identical Bill—Central Electricity Amendment Bill—was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in the last Session and that Bill had been withdrawn only yesterday. The Minister did not explain as to why that Bill was introduced and later withdrawn also. The Minister has also not explained the need for promulgating an Ordinance just a fortnight before the Parliament was going to meet, that is, on 8th October, 1976.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government has developed a habit of promulgating an Ordinance and then coming to the House for the approval of the same. In the present case a new and a bad precedent has been established. When the Bill was before the other House and property of that House, the Government promulgated an Ordinance and withdrew that Bill only yesterday. I take objection to this. Government should come forward and explain the necessity of promulgating an Ordinance. Why the issuing of the Ordinance become so much absolutely necessary? I would like to know, has the power position improved during the last fortnight? The issuing of the Ordinance is only to hoodwink the people. In the name

of tackling power crisis the Government wants to increase bureaucratisation of the power industry. Sir, here I would like to quote from the statement of objects and reasons the main objective for which the Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha:

"It was proposed to enlarge the scope and functions of the Central Electricity Authority in the interest of overall power development and to strengthen the Central Electricity Authority to undertake much larger responsibilities in evolving a national power policy, preparation of perspective and rolling plans, assisting in the timely completion of the power projects, maximising output from the existing power plants, developing a national grid and initiating programmes for research, development and training of personnel, etc..."

Sir, I would also like to know as to which are the State Governments who have objected to the introduction of this Bill. I would like to point out that Government in this Bill wants us to forget about the federal set-up of our country. Centre is taking much more power. I am sure, several State Governments would have objected to the framework of this Bill.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are seriously concerned about the failure in the power supply and the difficulties being faced by the industry on this account. There are repeated lay-offs in the industry due to power crisis. Erratic breakdown of power generating units has become a matter of common occurrence. Government is giving enormous power to the bureaucracy by this enactment.

The main purpose of the Bill is supposed to enlarge the scope and functions of the Central Electricity Authority. The Government wants us to believe that the entire power crisis was due to the inadequate powers of the Central Electricity Authority. It thus wants to divert the attention of the people from the real causes of power crisis. The major causes of the

acute shortage of power are as follows:

1. Bad supply of machinery by foreign concerns which led to heavy under utilisation of power units.

2. Bad maintenance of the power generating units by the authorities causing frequent power failures.

3. Government policy of permitting private capital to generate power and earn profit at the cost of public. Andhra Valley Co., Tata Power, Ahmedabad Power Co., Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation are certain examples.

4. Top heavy and corrupt administration of power projects which has been eating the major chunk of surplus in power generation.

5. Anti-labour policy of the power authorities leading to frequent disputes of workers, clerical staff, engineers etc. with the authorities.

6. The Government policy of supplying cheap power to leading industrialists while charging exorbitant rates from the ordinary consumers. While the poor consumers are fleeced the big industrialists are allowed to use the power projects as sources of profit.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the rates of power are also being increased. In this very Capital city of Delhi earlier there were different rates for power and light for domestic consumption. The difference in the two rates has been abolished and the rate of power supply has also been increased. The security deposit money has also been increased. In other words the use of electricity power has become a luxury item of consumption as the power rates have become so high that an ordinary person cannot afford to have the same.

Sir, Government has not given proper thought to the reasons for the power crisis in the country. They have given more authority by this Act to the same bureaucracy who are res-

[Dr. Saradish Roy]

possible for creating this crisis. We are paying a high price for the inefficiency of this bureaucracy and the Government is backing this system.

Sir, I would like to say that the power crisis that is developing or the delay in the completion of the power projects is on account of the connivance between the contractors and the high-ups and the bureaucracy. By bringing forward this Bill the Government wants us to believe that on account of want of more authority from the Centre this power crisis is there. This theory is merely to hoodwink the people. Sometimes the foreign companies are also causing delay in implementation of the projects by pressurising the Central Government to get much more profit out of the machinery supplied by them. My point is that by giving more power to the bureaucracy this system will get a further flourishing ground at the hands of the bureaucracy.

The Minister said that there is ten-fold increase in the power supply. I find that they have mentioned in the statement of objects and reasons that they are evolving a national power policy. This means that even after 25 years of our planning we have got no national plan on power generation and distribution in our country. Whatever planning is done is not done in a democratic manner. Reliance is placed only on the bureaucracy. This is the main cause of the trouble. But still more power is being given to them.

Government are now talking of electrifying entire villages in States, but we find that the urban areas are facing power failures. There is shortage of power in the urban areas.

Government are not prepared to learn from the mistakes of the past and they are making the problem much more complicated by the policy they propose to follow.

We have been seen that the private sector power generating companies are making huge profits while the public sector power generating undertakings

are making huge losses. This is due to the bureaucracy. But through this Bill the bureaucracy is given much more power. So we are sure that whatever be the laudable objects of the Bill, this policy will result in more power crisis in the country.

Therefore, it is necessary not merely to take certain administrative and procedural steps to broaden the activities of the Central Electricity Authority but to go into the basic causes of the present chaos in the power situation in the country. The Government's claim that the Bill has been brought after "a study in depth" is a mere eye-wash and can hoodwink none. If administrative flats could have solved the problems dogging our country, the power crisis would have been solved long ago.

The present Bill, therefore, instead of solving the power crisis will only deepen it and there is nothing in the Bill that will make us feel that the Government are really serious about mitigating the present power shortage.

DR. K. L. RAO (Vijayawada): We should all acknowledge the very efficient services being rendered to the country by the hon. Minister and his staff. We have got to realise the main problems before the nation. When we got freedom in 1947, we hardly had two million kw power, most of which were not in the public utility units. Now we have 22½ million kw. In the next two decades, towards the end of the century, we must have 150 million kw. That is the minimum requirement as calculated by the various authorities. To go from 22 million kw. to 150 million kw. is a very stupendous task, a challenging one for the nation. Therefore, now is the time for us to take a large number of steps which will ensure that we reach the target of 150 million kw.

The hon. Minister stated that there has been some shortage of power and it has to be made good by structural reorganisation of the various authorities. I wish to submit that that is only one of the factors, probably a minor

factor. The main or important factor is that the shortage is because the demand of the nation is growing so rapidly as compared to the supply we are having. In other words, we must create more and more generation capacity in the country.

Now I am afraid we must accept the fact that so far we have not realised the importance of power and the place to be assigned to it. We did not assign it the first place. For example, upto the beginning of the Fifth Plan we spent something like Rs. 6,000 crores. Now having realised the importance of this, in this Plan alone we are putting in Rs. 7,300 crores. This is very good. If we had realised the importance of this earlier, this shortage would not have been facing us today.

There are some other factors also. For example, we are connecting loads without ensuring sufficient amount of power availability. There are other reasons also. But what I find now is that in this Bill there is absence of attention to these problems. The most important thing in this context is the need for a national power policy. The hon. Minister has also accepted it, but left it to the Central Electricity Authority to enunciate it. This is not proper. The national power policy must be evolved and announced by the Government for the country as a whole.

What is meant by a national power policy? Now power is a concurrent subject, which can be dealt with both by the Centre and States. Here it consists of two distinct parts, generation and distribution. The Centre must take full responsibility for generation of power in the country as a whole. Power generation is, therefore, a part of the national power policy. Power will be developed and supplied in two sectors, that is, generation by the Centre and distribution by the States. Central generation of power has many advantages; the advantages outweigh the objections. The main advantage is that whatever staff and so on we have can be utilised to the best advantage. We have a limited supply

of high class experienced engineers. Here we are committing a mistake in retiring these people at 55 and in some States at 58. This should not be done. They should be taken on to 62 at least, because we have a very limited number of very good experienced engineers whose services we require for the most rapid and accelerated development of power.

Apart from that, there are other advantages in the Centre being responsible for power generation. The size of the machines can be bigger. We can put them to the best possible use. The only disadvantage—the hon. Minister also mentioned it—is objection by some States. If you analyse the objections, we find most of the States agree. The only State which object are those which have power potential like Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. They feel that by the construction of dams and storage reservoirs, their lands are submerged and they do not benefit. This is true. Construction of the Bhakra dam and the Beas dam have not proved very useful to the State of Himachal Pradesh. The only advantage it had is that it got a little power, which is negligible. But we can easily work out a scheme, not of royalty which is a bad word, of a compensatory allowance on an annual basis of one or two paise per kwh, generated which would bring an enormous amount of revenue to those States.

Coming to our main fuel and power resources in the future, if we can develop another 20 million kw. out of hydro power—that is the maximum we can have from economical unit operation—that would be good. The next source is coal which is already in the central sector as we have nationalised coal.

Here, take, for example, a State like Karnataka. It has got hydro potential of only one million kw. more. Once it is exhausted, where will it go for power? They will be in the same soup. So the planning must be on a regional basis, Central generation achieved

[Dr. K. L. Rao]

through the constitution of some regional boards, may be three, four or five.

It is mentioned in the Bill that generating agency can also be created by the States. We have got 18 Electricity Boards. They might develop generating companies or corporations, because this is looked upon as a prestige matter, as in the case of engineering colleges. We have a number of engineering colleges; even a small State like Tripura has one, with the result that inefficient engineers are produced. The same thing will happen in every State and they would put up a Generating Board or a Corporation, that means, $18 \times 2 = 36$ will come into operation.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Rao, you will continue after lunch.

13.00 hrs.

The House adjourned for Lunch till fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at two minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI C. M. STEPHEN in the Chair].

ELECTRICITY (SUPPLY) AMENDMENT BILL—contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The total time allotted for this Bill is 2 hours. 30 minutes have already been taken and 90 minutes remain. I will call the minister at 3.00. Members may kindly bear this in mind. The next Bill will be taken up at 3.30. Dr. K. L. Rao, who was on his legs may continue.

DR. K. L. RAO: I was saying in the morning that for the rapid development of power in the country, we have to fulfil certain conditions. The most important is the enunciation of a national power policy. Many States like Bihar, UP, Andhra Pradesh and

many others are far below the per capita average of the country. If we do not take some action urgently, as we go along, the situation will become worse. Power generation should be done through a central organisation and not through State organisations. Therefore, a national power policy should be enunciated immediately and power generation should be taken over by the Centre. There should be regional planning. In power, no unit can be commissioned in less than five years. That is why planning should be done on a ten year basis, as is done all over the world. So, unless these steps are undertaken, it is no use deceiving ourselves that we will be able to achieve the target of 150 million kw by the end of the century.

The hon. minister said that he is going to bring another amending Bill to the Electricity Supply Act. This is very necessary. Our 1948 Act is a copy of the English Act of 1947. But in England, they have completely changed this Act while we have been going on tinkering with it. So, the Act should be completely recast incorporating the various features I have mentioned. I would suggest that the minister should form a committee consisting of Indian experts plus three foreign experts from USSR, U.K. and USA. Mr. Neprozny, who has been Minister for Power in USSR for the last 20 years and who has increased power generation there from practically zero to 200 million kw should be invited to serve on this committee. Then Mr. Stanley Brown, retired Chairman of the Central Power Generation Board of the U.K. should be there. Also, Mr. Cislis of USA, who was the President of the last World Power Conference should also be there. He has been our great friend. He has helped us by being a member of our Energy Committee and Load Survey Committee. He will come if we invite him. These three plus some Indian experts should go into the problem and within three or four months produce a report, on which the government should take a quick decision. That is the best we can do, be-

cause these three countries among themselves account for nearly two-thirds of the world power generation. If we do this, it will be possible for us to have a correct approach and move in the right direction. Our object is to supply power to every part of the country at a uniform rate, allowing for transmission losses. This committee can help us on this point, so that we can achieve a power generating capacity of 150 million KW in 20 years. The difference between having power and having no power is the same as the difference between a blind man and a man with eyesight. Power is needed for agriculture, industry, solving unemployment problem and even for family planning. Therefore, it is most important.

I shall now explain some of my amendments. I have suggested that it should be National Thermal Generation Corporation and National Hydel Generation Corporation, because 'generating company' does not sound well. You should not allow the States to form similar corporations without the permission of the Central Organisation. There is no point in going on multiplying corporations. If in any particular case it is found necessary, as in Maharashtra where they are making a noble effort to cope up with the load by undertaking a large number of projects, then with the permission of the Central organisation, they can do it.

I have also suggested that the number of members must be reduced. 16 members are really not necessary. You should be very cautious. Part time members will not come prepared to the meeting. They will put in more of obstructions. We should have full-time members. The full-time members may be 7 or 8, as the hon. Minister thinks necessary; but we should try to reduce the number. As Sir Visvesvarayya, the great engineer of our country used to say, the best committee must consist of 3 people—not more than 3—of whom 2 are absent. If we really mean to have rapid acceleration of our country's power resources, it is very important that the members

must be few in number, specially because we do not have so many people of status in various disciplines. I am glad that the hon. Minister has taken a step in the right direction; but he should not increase the membership.

Similarly about qualification. There is a clause in which they say that people with experience of commercial industrial or business administration can also be selected as members. It is a most dangerous provision, because electrical power is a highly sophisticated type of energy; and it involves a very large requirement of technical knowledge. Therefore, we should try to confine the selection to the engineers. As I have submitted earlier, we have extremely good and valuable engineers in this country. You need not retire them at the age of 55, take them over and make use of their services for 2 or 3 years more. If some of these steps are taken, we can develop adequate power in this country—which is most essential.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I am thankful to the Minister for having given a thought to this Act, which was passed in 1948. It will give a new dimension to the approach to this important subject. I quite agree with that the planning of the power sector should be done with a national perspective. So far as the suggestion of Dr. K. L. Rao that we should have regional grids is concerned, I do not agree with it. We should not have regional grids, but we should have national grids. We cannot draw a line between region and region, and have various compartments so far as power development in this country is concerned. Emphasis should be laid on removing the regional disparities. It is most unfortunate that with the advance of the so-called civilization, more and more people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have receded into inaccessible and backward places. Even after 25 years of planning, there has been no impact on them. We all know what vital part electricity plays in the development of any backward area. It is not a question of luxury; it is a question of

[Shri P. K. Deo]

necessity. If we can provide power to those backward areas which are full of mineral and forest wealth, they will be humming with activity. The paper mill at Kesinga had to be shifted for lack of promised power. If power is provided, those areas will have a better living standard, better employment opportunities and better entrepreneurial opportunities. Those areas should be given top priority in the matter of giving electricity. There are no irrigation facilities, particularly in drought-prone areas. By providing energized pumps in those areas, we can solve the problem of water to a great extent. To our misfortune we find that Eastern India, i.e. States like Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal are on the bottom of the ladder, so far as provision of energized pumps are concerned.

So, taking into consideration these areas, I think special emphasis should be laid on providing electricity to the eastern region of this country.

The Statement of objects and Reasons is laudable and deserves full support, but I will be failing in my duty if I do not press at this moment for the implementation of the Upper Indravati multi-purpose irrigation project. In the earlier statement, the hon. Minister said that probably hydro-electric power has been fully developed, but this thing has been under investigation for the last 25 years and kept in cold storage because of the inter-state water dispute regarding the Godavari, but after the announcement of the 20-point programme, that dispute is over and the water to the various states has been allocated. There will be diversion of water from the Godavari to the Mahanadi basin which will give it a natural drop of 1200 feet with which we can produce 600 MW of hydro-electric power and irrigate 500,000 acres of the chronically drought-affected areas in my district.

Secondly, God has been very kind to this area. Lately there has been a

discovery of one of the largest bauxite deposits of the world in the east coast. They expect a thousand million tonnes of high grade bauxite—600 million tonnes in Orissa and 400 million tonnes in Andhra Pradesh. The Ministry of Steels and Mines has already stated that two alumina plants would be established one in Andhra Pradesh and another in Orissa, but an electro-metallurgical industry like aluminium needs a minimum of 200 MW of power which only the Indravati power house can supply. So, I most respectfully submit that this should be given top priority.

The other day I was in Korba where a bauxite deposit had been located, but now it is found that it will not be as large as the earlier estimates. The bauxite ore there will not be able to feed the one lakh tonne alumina plant which is being set up there. Because of the tussle between the Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board and BALCO, the progress is not as much as was desired. There are four smelters of 25,000 tonnes each, but only one smelter has been commissioned because the power has not been supplied. The thermal station at Korba has a capacity of 300 MW, but for some reason the expansion programme has met with several hurdles, and they are not able to cope with it.

Now, I will come to my amendment. For the past many years in this House we from these Benches have rightly criticised that unnecessary concession has been shown to the monopoly industrial houses. Cheap power had been made available to HINDALCO from Rihand and to INDAL from Hirakud, but at the same time, the needy farmers did not get power to energise their pump sets. I submit therefore, that with the coming up of the Hydro Power Corporation, top priority should be given to the upper Indravati Project. Irrigation and Power, Railways and other Ministries should also be associated so that it is an integrated approach, as

this Ministry alone will not be able to solve the problem. If the various Ministries put their heads together, there will be a combined approach.

The Indravati Power Project has been cleared by the Central Water and Power Commission and is now pending with the Technical Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission. I hope it will be given clearance soon.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY (Chittoor): Sir, I welcome this Bill as a big landmark in the history of power development in the country and an earnest of the oft-proclaimed desire of the hon. Minister for attaining the power objectives as soon as possible, so that for want of power, the economic development of our nation does not suffer. I congratulate the hon. Minister on the anticipatory action that he has taken in setting up two Generation Corporations, one hydel and the other thermal. By this, a new chapter is opening for our country, and I hope and trust that with the Authority and with the restructural changes brought about in this Bill, we will forge ahead in developing our generation capacity in the country, so that the story of power cuts may be a thing of the past.

Having set up these Generation Corporations, particularly for the thermal one, I would request the hon. Minister to take prompt action to exploit the vast deposits of coal available in South India and set up regional super-thermal stations to relieve the growing power shortage felt in South India. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh have more than once proclaimed its intention and desire to place at the disposal of the nation the vast low grade coal stocks found in our State, so that, it may be exploited for the power needs of the whole country. In view of the power shortage felt in Karnataka and the limitation of development of hydel power in that State, I would suggest to the hon. Minister to set up jointly with the

States and the Central participation a super thermal station based on the Singareni coal field so that, with that, the power shortage in South India can be completely met.

Similarly, having set up a Hydel Generation Corporation, why should not the Central Government, under the aegis of this Corporation, take over and complete the long-pending projects like Srisaïlam which, though started long back, have been dragging their feet for want of resources. I would earnestly suggest that this Corporation should take over such major schemes which possibly cannot be completed, left to the States themselves as expected.

I have given notice of two amendments to this Bill. One is this. In enunciating the objective of the restructured Central Electricity Authority, the Minister has said that it is for developing a national power policy and for attaining our goal of national power pool with a national transmission grid. If that is so, why not spell it out in the Bill itself? In the objects as outlined in the relevant Clause of the Bill, it is said that the Central Electricity Authority will merely prepare short-term and long-term perspective power development schemes and will do the coordination of the planning agencies. In my view, this is not enough. The objectives should be specifically mentioned there as 'attainment of National Power Pool with a National Transmission Grid'.

My second amendment relates to re-allocation of the duties of the State Electricity Boards. It is welcome that generation at the State level is being separated from the State Electricity Board. We know very well that the State Electricity Boards have floundered and made a mess of the whole thing by trying to interest themselves in all aspects of electricity. Many Committees which have gone into this aspect have suggested many times that generation has to be

[Shri P. Narasimha Reddy]

separated from the State Electricity Board, so that their functioning can be toned up and the losses can be reduced. The State Electricity Boards, by following an unimaginative tariff policy have made development of agricultural and cottage industries impossible in backward areas, particularly in drought-prone areas. My amendment is that the following should be added at the end of sub-clause (e) of Clause 11:

"and to adopt a flexible and differential consumption tariff so as to secure equitable benefits and incentives for lift-irrigation in drought-prone areas and for rural cottage industries."

I am suggesting this, so that the interests of the lift irrigation people and the rural cottage industries may be secure. These people, who are now struggling with the Board in such areas, are worse than the bonded labour. If the Minister is interested in abolishing bonded labour in all fields of national life, he should accept this amendment and see that suitable tariff policy is evolved by the State Electricity Boards so that the lift irrigation people in the drought prone areas are liberated from their present bondage.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह (चतरा) :

सभापति महोदय, हमारे सामने जो विद्युत प्रदाय संशोधन विधेयक 1976 आया है इस का मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। स्वागत इसलिए भी करना आवश्यक है कि पंत जी ने जिन जिन विभागों का काम अपने हाथ में लिया उन की कार्य दक्षता बढ़ी। एक और ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में जिस समय कोल को अपने हाथ में लिया उस समय देश में कोयले की कमी थी, लेकिन वहाँ कोयले का उत्पादन इतना अधिक बढ़ गया कि अब कोयला खरीदने वाला नहीं मिलता, कोयले का भण्डार भर गया। इसी प्रकार से बिजली का भी कार्यभार अपने हाथ में लिया तो 1974-75 में वहाँ प्रति दिन 193.6 मिलियन यूनिट

बिजली का उत्पादन था वहाँ 1975-76 में वह बढ़ कर 225 मिलियन यूनिट प्रति दिन उत्पादन होने लगा। यह शुभ लक्षण है।

मैं इस समय जो बात कहना चाहूँगा वह यह कि आज बिजली का ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सब से अधिक भर पड़ता है, उत्पादन पर भी असर पड़ता है और रोजगारों के जीवन पर भी असर पड़ता है। हमारा बहुत ही विनीत स्वर में यह कहना है कि आज जितनी परेशानी, जितनी घाघली और जितनी चोरी बिजली विभाग में होती है, स्टेट्स में उतनी जायद और कहीं नहीं होती। जब कभी हम लोग अपने क्षेत्रों में जाते हैं, और लोगों को भी इस का तजुबा होगा, जितनी शिकायत बिजली के बारे में हम को सुनने को मिलती है उतनी किसी और चीज के बारे में नहीं मिलती। मुझे इस का तजुबा है : मैं जब कभी जाता हूँ तीन तीस, चालीस चालीस, पचास पचास लोगो ने शिकायत की है कि बिना पैसे दिये उन को लाइन नहीं दी जाती है। लाइन दे भी दी गई, अगर खड़ी फसल लगी हुई है और उनको कुछ पैसे नहीं दिए तो ऐसे समय में उस को खराब कर दिया जाता है कि जिस से उस की फसल समाप्त हो जाय। इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस को नेशनल इम्पाटेंस की चीज समझें और जब भी एलेक्ट्रिसिटी के बारे में कोई नीति बने तो आप की राष्ट्रीय नीति बननी चाहिए। जैसे शिक्षा के संबंध में हम बात करते हैं, रिचार्ज के संबंध में बात करते हैं, औद्योगिक प्रगति के संबंध में बात करते हैं, ऐसे ही विद्युत या पावर के संबंध में भी आप को एक राष्ट्रीय नीति बनानी चाहिए और उस के अनुसार आप को ही उस का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन भी करना चाहिए। वहाँ जितनी बिजली की आवश्यकता कृषि के लिए है और वहाँ जितनी बिजली की आवश्यकता उद्योग के लिए है यह भी केन्द्र निर्धारित करे और इस के साथ ही जो आज बिजली के बिलों में कई तरह की दरें हैं उन को भी

आप को समाप्त करना चाहिए। यह सब से आवश्यक है। अगर एन्वूमिनियम फैक्ट्री है तो उस को किसी दर से बिजली दे रहे हैं, बेपर फैक्ट्री है तो आपको किसी और दर से दे रहे हैं। बिरला की फैक्ट्री है तो किसी और दर से दे रहे, हैं किसी और की फैक्ट्री है तो दूसरी दर दे रहे हैं। यह बिल्कुल बन्द होना चाहिए। आप को अगर इस में रियायत देनी है तो गरीब कितानों को रियायत दीजिए जो बेचारे भुगतान नहीं कर सकते हैं। किसी उद्योगपति सेठ साहूकार या बड़े आदमी को आप क्यों रियायत दे रहे हैं जिस को करोड़ों रुपये तो ऐसे ही फायदे में आते हैं। उन को बिजली में रियायत देने से क्या फायदा है ?

मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान अब केवल उन्हीं बातों की ओर दिलाऊंगा जो बार बार मंत्रालय की सलाहकार समितियों में और इस पार्लियामेंट में कही गई हैं। एक तो नेशनल एनर्जी पालिसी होनी चाहिए।

दूसरा है—

Effective Steps to maximise power generation

और तीसरा है—

Setting up of super thermal power station.

पहला—प्राइम मिनिस्टर के विस सूची कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत जो हमने लक्ष्य बनाये हैं उस की पूर्ति होनी चाहिये। इस के बाद मैं मंत्री जी से यह जरूर कहना चाहूंगा कि ग्रामीण विद्युत्तिकाकरण की जो योजना है उस को आप फस्ट प्रायोरिटी दें, उस में आप प्रान्त से राय मांगते हैं, लेकिन केन्द्र से भी आप किसी आदमी को भेज कर निर्धारित करें कि कहां पर होना चाहिये : मैं यह इस लिये कह रहा हूं, मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है, वहां प्रतापुर है, हजारों बाग में, जहां न सड़क है और न बिजली है, जब कि वह प्रखण्ड मुख्यालय है। वहां के लिये सफाई करवाई थी कि हरल-इलेक्ट्रिकेशन किया जाय, लेकिन पता नहीं क्या हुआ

वह योजना। इस क्षेत्र से काट कर दूसरी जगह कर दी गई, जहां पर उस की जरूरत नहीं थी, क्योंकि वहां से पोलिटिकल-पैरवी थी।

इस के साथ एक बात मैं और कहना चाहूंगा—जो आप ने अथारिटी सेंटर में कायम की है, उस में आप ने आठ-दस या पांच मेम्बर जो बनाये हैं, उन के बारे में मैंने अपना अमेण्डमेंट दिया है कि उस में कम से कम दो पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों को जरूर रखा जाय, जो कि आप की ओर से आने चाहिए। पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर कहां रहते हैं, वहां चक्कर रहता है और ठीक देख-रेख रहती है। जिस अथारिटी, जिस कार-पोरेशन या जिस कमेटी में पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर नहीं होते हैं, उस का स्तर ऊंचा नहीं हो पाता है, वहां पर अफ़ारश ही ज्यादा रहती है।

हमारे देश में बी.एच.ई.एल. ने बड़े बड़े पावर थर्मल स्टेशनों के संयंत्र केवल इस देश के लिये ही नहीं, विदेशों के लिये भी तैयार किये हैं। लीबिया, अरब-कन्ट्रीज तथा दूसरे देशों से करोड़ों-अरबों का काम उस को मिला हुआ है। इस देश में जो पुराने थर्मल-पावर स्टेशन खो गये हैं, जो 29 साल के पुराने हैं, जैसे दामोदर-बैली कारपोरेशन है, उन की क्षमता अब गिर गई है। वे अब उतना पावर प्रोडक्शन नहीं कर सकते, जितना उन को करना चाहिये। ऐसी स्थिति में मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि उन थर्मल-पावर स्टेशन का आप नवीकरण करें। जिससे अधिक उत्पादन हो सके।

हमारी दामोदर बैली कारपोरेशन है, जिस की अधिकांश नदियां बिहार से हैं, लेकिन इरिगेशन परियोजना के लिये उन का पानी बंगाल में जा रहा है और पावर भी बंगाल ले रहा है—ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि जो कुछ मैंने कहा है उस पर ध्यान दें।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the grounds which have been stated for bringing forward this amending Bill both in the written statement of Objects and Reasons as well as in the Minister's opening remarks are, of course, something which we all welcome and support. There is no doubt about the fact that the Act of 1948 has become obsolete in the sense that the structural set-up of that Act is no longer capable of meeting the needs of the situation in the power field. But it has also been emphasised by the Minister, and actually that was stated in 1948 Act in the Statement of Objects and Reasons also that the object should be to evolve a national power policy including the concept of a national grid. But the fact remains that after nearly thirty years, which we have passed, while the total volume of power generated has gone up in a spectacular fashion, can we ask ourselves this question whether we have been able to get anywhere near a sound or adequate uniform national power policy? Can we say that proper control and utilization of national power resources has been achieved or that we are well on the way to achieving it? From this point of view, I feel that we are lagging very very far behind. I agree with some of the valuable remarks made by Dr. Rao. The point of the matter is—he was very polite, I should say—that the State Governments under whom these Electricity Boards come are virtually running these things as their own a sort of private jagirdaris, if I may say so. That is the attitude, because they have to come to the Centre only to get approval to some schemes and get the necessary funds.

The power crisis which is accentuated in the last 3-4 years has revealed that there is neither an effective control nor utilisation of the national power resources. Every body knows that even sharing of surplus power which some States have, with the deficit States, has become

very difficult, not only due to the absence of inter-State transmission lines and absence of regional or national grids or due perhaps to the disputes about the tariffs which will be chargeable but due to this attitude which has developed among many of the States that these are their own private sort of zamindaris. The Committee on Public Undertakings itself has pointed out that there is a reluctance on the part of the States which have got surplus power to part with it for the sake of other not so fortunate States.

Then there are so many disputes regarding the utilisation of hydel resources, about the location of the super thermal power stations which are proposed, etc. All this has held up their construction and development. While it is very good to reiterate these objectives in this amending Bill now, I think we have to judge it from the standpoint of whether it is actually going to ensure a real central ownership and central control of generation and transmission capacity. Unless that is done, there is no other way to overcome what I would describe as this State overlordship in the matter of power generation and transmission. From that point of view, we feel that this Bill is disappointing and does not go far enough. After a gap of nearly 30 years, a Bill which was certainly more comprehensive and more radical than this, was required.

I just want to briefly deal with about 3-4 major points. First of all, I say that one of the major ingredients of a national power policy should be now to take over these remaining private licensees, the giant ones, the major ones. Although the Minister said in his opening remarks that in relation to the total volume of power generated, the power generated by these private licensees is marginal, but what is their characteristic? They are located in areas which have a tremendous concentration of load. For example, the Calcutta Electric

Supply Corporation, the Tata Hydel Power, the Andhra Valley Power Supply Company which are all Tatas, the Bombay Suburban Electric Supply Corporation, the Ahmedabad Electric Supply Co. Their total volume of power generated may not sound very impressive compared with the total amount generated in the country as a whole, but, Bombay, Ahmedabad, Calcutta are not just any place. They are the three most important areas of industrial concentration and growth in this country. All these concerns are holding practically monopoly of power generation in those areas and earning huge profits. Do you think that the development of a national power policy in the interests of the country overall can be fitted in with a profit-oriented undertaking of power as is being done by these concerns? These concerns have been repeatedly given extensions of their licences. So, it seems the Government are afraid of dealing with these people. We do not think that this fits into the scheme of a national power policy at all, apart from the fact that the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation is also blackmailing the government and consumers repeatedly there and I should say, are making fantastic profits by repeatedly putting up their domestic tariffs which has been done three times in the last two years alone.

The second point I wish to make is that we think that there should be a much more purposeful move by the Centre for central generation and a national grid. I do not know why the Minister is a sort of apologetic about it as though he is doing something through this very limited Bill which requires a lot of apology and explanation. I understand that nationalisation in that sense cannot be done overnight, certainly. But we have to proceed in the direction of evolving this national power policy. We should undertake that step-by-step and these thermal, hydel and atomic power stations should come with the Centre. More and more high voltage

and Inter-State transmission lines should be controlled by the Centre. We talk about controlling the commanding heights of the economy. That is being talked of in other spheres. In the field of power which is the first requisite of development the government should move towards achieving these commanding heights.

My third point is this. In the proposed Bill a multiplicity of agencies is sought to be created. There are lots of new agencies which are proposed to be set up mostly in the States for generation, transmission, supply etc. This I am afraid will only lead to more chaos as far as the national policy is concerned and as far as the national purposes go. Multiplicity of agencies is also something against the interests of the workers. There are places where persons are kept in musterrolls for years together. There are deputationists who remain there blocking the chances of others. It is very harmful in every possible way.

What is to be the national policy regarding power tariffs and power rates? Some members have already pointed out that it is the big monopoly houses and the big concerns which are getting concessional rates. Take for example agricultural farmers, small-scale industries, domestic consumers and so on. Whenever the rates are revised they are the first victims who are to suffer. You do not give relief in respect of these small-scale industries, the domestic consumers and the small farmers. The big houses like Birlas and others go on getting all types of concessions in this regard. Therefore, taking the overall pattern of development and generation, national policy should be there in the question of power tariffs and power rates. This Bill is a very hesitant sort of Bill. I do not know how we can go on on the basis of this Bill for the next 25 or 30 years. The hon. Minister said that he is thinking of bringing another Bill. I understand that would be relating to the question of financial commitment.

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

I hope when he brings such a Bill he will also try to incorporate the suggestions made in the debate.

Sir, the time is very inadequate and there are many things to be said. There are many points to be dealt with. Let his next Bill not restrict itself only to the financial aspects, but my request to the hon. Minister is to make the Bill more comprehensive, and more radical, so that we may move towards a national power policy and central control.

श्री मूल चन्द डागा (पाली) : चैयरमैन साहब, आप ने जो तीन मिनट का समय दिया है, उस में से आधे मिनट में तो मैं श्री के० सी० पन्त को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने बहुत अच्छा काम किया है और दूसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि इस बिल के अन्दर कुछ ऐसी बातें हैं जिन की तरफ मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाऊंगा। पहली बात तो यह है कि आप ने यह कहा है कि कम्पनीज वहाँ खड़ी की जाएंगी जहाँ पर सब प्रकार की सुविधाएँ हों जैसे ट्रान्सपोर्ट की बात है और रा-मैटीरिल की बात है। मैं कहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट जब कोई नई फैक्टरी या कम्पनी बनाती है, तो बैकवर्ड एरियाज में क्यों नहीं लगाती है। इसलिए यह जो जेनरेटिंग कम्पनी आप खड़ी करना चाहते हैं, मेहरवानी कर के इस को बैकवर्ड एरियाज में लगाइए। जिन लोगों को आप लाइसेन्स देते हैं, वे बैकवर्ड एरियाज में नहीं जाते हैं और गवर्नमेंट भी जब कोई नया पावर स्टेशन लगाना चाहती है या नई कम्पनी खड़ा करना चाहती है, तो बैकवर्ड एरियाज में नहीं जाती है। इस में जो आप ने प्रोविजन रख दिया है कि जहाँ पर फैसेलिटीज होगी, वहाँ पर ये कम्पनीज लगाई जाएंगी, इस से राजस्थान का जो इलाका रेगिस्तान है वह हमेशा ही रेगिस्तान रहेगा और हमारे अरविन्द नेताम साहब का जो इलाका है, वह भी वैसा ही रहेगा। इसलिए

मेरा निवेदन यह है कि गवर्नमेंट को अपनी कम्पनीज बैकवर्ड एरियाज में लगानी चाहिए और वहीं पर इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर क्रीयट करना चाहिए और सरकार को यह बहना नहीं करना चाहिए कि हम तो वहीं पर इन को लगा सकते हैं जहाँ पर स.री सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध हैं। आप इसके लिए सड़कें बनाइये, ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की दूसरी चीजें बनाइये ताकि बैकवर्ड एरियाज के अन्दर आपका काम हो। इस बार आपने बिल्कुल ठीक किया कि अधारिटी में पढ़े लिखे लोग आयेंगे, जो एक्सपर्ट हैं वह आयेंगे, नहीं तो ऐसे ही लोग इसमें घुस जाते थे। आपने इसके लिए प्रोविजन किया है—

'A fulltime Member shall be the person who has experience and has shown capacity.'

अब की बार पंत जी ने बहुत अच्छी बात की है। इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड में क्या होता है, जो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी की ए०बी०सी० नहीं जानते, वे लोग इसमें आ जाते हैं और इसके चेअरमैन बन कर बैठ जाते हैं। इसके बारे में एस्टीमेटस कमिटी की रिपोर्ट में सजेशन दिया गया था कि ये जो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड्स हैं ये घाटे में जाते हैं, इनको ठीक किया जाये। ये जितने भी इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड्स हैं यह सब घाटे में जाते हैं। यह बहुत अच्छा है कि आप इसके बारे में एक बहुत बड़ा बिल ला रहे हैं। 1948 के बाद से 1976 में यह पहली बार इसके बारे में कोई बिल आया है। इसके मुताबिक इसमें टेक्नीशियंस होंगे, एक्सपर्ट्स होंगे। एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा था कि इसमें एम०पीज० भी होने चाहिए। लेकिन इसमें एम०पीज० वे होने चाहिए जो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी के बारे में जानते हों। अगर मैं घुस जाऊँ तो मैं तो व्यापार करने लग जाऊँगा।

समापति जी ये जो तीन मिनट दिये गये हैं ये इस बिल पर बोलने के लिए कम हैं।

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह सोखी: (जमशेदपुर) :
चेन्नरमेन साहब, यह जो बिल पंत जा लाये
हैं यह बहुत अच्छा बिल लाये हैं। मैं पंत
जो को इसके लिए बढ़ाई देता हूँ। इन्होंने
जो अपने स्टेटमेंट में कहा है कि कई जगहों
पर पावर जेनरेशन को डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन से अलग
कर दिया जायगा। इसके बारे में मेरा कहना
यह है कि यह सब स्टेटों में यूनीफार्मली होना
चाहिए, नहीं तो इसमें दिक्कत आ सकती
हैं।

दूसरी बात इन्होंने क्लॉज 15ए में
कहो है। उसमें उन्होंने कहा है—

“(a) design, construction, operation and maintenance of generating stations; (b) transmission and supply of electricity; (c) applied economics; (d) organising workers; (e) industrial, commercial or financial matters; or (f) administration in a Government Department or other establishment”.

मैं कहता हूँ कि क्या कोई एक आदमी
इन 6 किस्मों के काम को संभाल सकता है ?
मेरे ख्याल में तो कोई हरफनमौला ही होगा
जो ऐसा कर सके। क्या एक ही आदमी लेबर
सेल्फेयर को भी देख सकता है और कमिशियल
आस्पेक्ट्स को भी देख सकता है ? मैं सुझाव
दूंगा कि इसमें कम से कम तीन मेम्बर होने
चाहिए। नहीं तो इसमें बाद में दिक्कत
आयेगी।

दूसरी बात मैं पंत जी के ध्यान में
लाना चाहता हूँ। सुबनारखा हाइड्रो पावर
प्रोजेक्ट जो मेरे इलाके सिंहभूम में है, इसके
लिए 140 लाख रुपये दिये हैं। अभी तक
वहाँ पर कुछ नहीं बना है। पता नहीं, वहाँ
पर क्या होगा, क्या नहीं होगा ?

बिहार में सब कुछ है। आपको वहाँ
पावर स्टेशन बनाने चाहिए। वहाँ बड़े
बड़े डैम हैं। वहाँ पर कोयला बहुत है
इस वास्ते जहाँ तक हो सके मेहरबानी कर

के डैम पर और कोयले पर आधारित पावर
हाउसिस आप बनाएं।

बिजली के मामले में बहुत किस्म की
शिकायतें सुनने में आती हैं। जैसे शंकर दयाल
सिंह जी ने कहा बिजली के मामले में ब्रोइब
बहुत ली जाती है, खास करके कनेक्शन बिजली
का जब दिया जाता है तो बहुत ब्राइब ली
जाती है। बिहार में तो यह बीमारी बहुत
ज्यादा है। इन चीजों की तरफ आप ध्यान
दें। बिहार इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड को भी आप
कमें। पम्प जिन से पानी इरिगेशन के लिए
लिया जाता है उनको बन्द कर दिया जाता है
जिससे किसानों को बड़ी दिक्कत होती है।
इस ओर आप ध्यान दें।

पावर हाउसिस को भी आप अच्छी
तरह से मटेन करें। उनका आप एक्सपेंशन
भी कर सकते हैं। नए भी लगाएं। लेकिन
नए न भी लगाएं तो उनकी ताकत आप बढ़ा
सकते हैं। इस पर आप ध्यान दें।

जैसे श्री इंद्रजीत गुप्त ने कहा कलकत्ता
इलेक्ट्रिसिटी सप्लाय कंपनी, टाटा इलेक्ट्रिक
कम्पनी, अहमदाबाद, आन्ध्र प्रदेश इलेक्ट्रिसिटी
वाले जो हैं उनको आप बिल्कुल खत्म करें,
उनको आप बीच में से हटाएं। उनकी कोई
जरूरत नहीं है। इन कम्पनियों को आप टेक
ओवर कर लें। इन के लाइसेंस आप कैंसल
करें। इन्होंने बहुत कमा लिया है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन
करता हूँ।

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN (Buldana):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, supply of electricity is of basic importance not only to the development of industry but also of agriculture and means of transport and communications. In spite of immense development in this sector there is considerable imbalance in the demand and supply of this important form of energy.

The reasons why the Power Supply Industry could not develop rapidly are

[Shri Y. S. Mahajan]

clear enough. The organisational structure set up under the Electricity Supply Act of 1948 is not only inadequate, but highly defective. It is unsuited to the needs of a developing country whose demand for this type of power is increasing by about 15 per cent every year.

The Central Electricity Authority was set up under Section 3 of the Electricity Supply Act of 1948. But it does not endow it with sufficient power to plan the development of the industry or coordinate the activities of the various Electricity Boards and private undertakings. The Act set a premium on inefficiency and did not provide for any financial or commercial discipline in the business of supply of electricity. The State Electricity Boards are usually in the red and the industry suffers from instability of supply, chronic low voltage conditions, excessive losses in transmission and difficulties of transfer from one area to another. As for breakdowns there is no limit. Sir, in my part of the country, even Surgeons cannot be sure of power while performing their operations. They have to make some stand-by arrangements. And so far as Agriculturists are concerned, they have to work on the farms during night time because power might be made available at any time during the night.

I am glad the hon. Minister has come forward with this Bill to overcome these defects. The Bill enlarges the scope and functions of the Central Electricity—Authority in the interest of overall power planning.

In this connection I might like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the sad plight of the State of Maharashtra. Sir, there was already a cut of 10 to 30 per cent till 31st October. From 1st November an additional cut of 10 per cent has been added. It is estimated that the loss of production per day comes to about Rs. 5 crores.

I hope sanction would be accorded to the schemes of a gas turbine power

plant which can come into operation within 1½ years as compared to thermal power station which takes about 5 years.

Similarly, Sir, schemes of power expansion which are awaiting sanction, such as, increasing the capacity of the Tarapore Atomic Centre, a thermal power station at Trombay and the scheme of the Bombay Suburban Electricity Company should be cleared, as soon as possible. If this is done, to a certain extent, the lack of power will be made good during the Fifth and the Sixth Plan-periods in Maharashtra.

With these remarks, I support the Bill.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र (मधुबनी) : श्रीमान्, जीवन में जो स्थान अन्न, वायु और जल का है, आज के युग में विद्युत का भी वही स्थान है। देश को उन्नत करना है उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देना है, खेत और कारखानों में अधिक उत्पादन हो और काफी मात्रा में उत्पादन हो इसके लिये बिजली की आवश्यकता होती है। आज देश में बिजली का हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। संतोष की बात है कि यह विभाग दक्ष मंत्री के हाथ में है, और 1948 में जो विद्युत प्रदाय अधिनियम बना उस में मंत्री जी आज आमूल परिवर्तन का विधेयक लेकर सदन में आये हैं। हमारा विश्वास है कि इस से बिजली में काफी प्रगति होगी, जिस के लिये मैं मंत्री जी का धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

बिल की सारी विशेषताओं का वर्णन करने का समय नहीं है इसलिये केवल सुझाव ही रखना चाहता हूँ। विधेयक के खंड 4(2) के अनुसार सदस्यों में से अध्यक्ष की नियुक्ति की बात है, लेकिन उन की योग्यता और कार्यकाल पर कोई प्रकाश नहीं डाला गया है। मंत्री महोदय इस को स्पष्ट करेंगे। आप ने 14 सदस्यों की संख्या रखी है, अच्छा होता अगर 15 कर देते।

केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण तथा राज्य विद्युत परामर्श परिषद् में जनप्रतिनिधियों को भी स्थान मिलना चाहिये। बिजली उत्पादन की सोमा निर्धारित हो तथा अच्छा काम करने वालों को पुरस्कार दिया जाय और जो व्यक्ति ठोक से काम न करें उन्हें अवश्य दंड देना चाहिये। बिजली का अभाव न हो, और चोरी न हो, इस बात की आप को पूरी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये। इस के साथ ही मेरा निवेदन है कि आप के मंत्रालय में जो भी स्कीम तैयार हो या और कोई काम हो तो उस में राजभाषा का उपयोग हो जिससे राष्ट्रभाषा को बढ़ावा मिले।

एक कहावत है कि हर शून्य चोट निहाई माथा धर्यात् सब से ज्यादा परेशानी किसान को हो होती है, वही बेचारे परेशान होते हैं। इसलिये बिजली की आपूर्ति किसानों को सस्ती दर पर करें।

अब मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान एक आवश्यक विषय की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। जैसा माननीय शंकर दयाल सिंह ने कहा कि बिहार में बिजली की बढ़ी कमी रही है। क्यों न रहे? अगर आप थर्मल पावर स्टेशन नहीं बनायेंगे तो बिजली कहाँ से आयेगी? कुछ वर्ष पहले कटिहार और मुजफ्फरपुर में थर्मल पावर स्टेशन की स्थापना का निर्णय हुआ, लोगों को खुशी हुई कि बिजली का संकट दूर होगा। लेकिन फिर क्या कारण हुआ जिस की वजह से दोनों स्थानों के बारे में जो स्वीकृति हुई थी वह रद्द कर दी गई। मैं चाहूँगा कि मंत्री महोदय बतायें कि यह रद्द क्यों हुई, और क्या फिर पुनः स्वीकृति प्रदान करेंगे? बिहार इस बात की, इस स्वीकृति की आप से अपेक्षा करता है।

अन्त में मैं आप को पुनः धन्यवाद देता हूँ और इस विधेयक का हृदय से स्वागत करता हूँ।

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Since Shri Kartik Oraon, an engineer, is not here, I hope at least his time may be allotted....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is reduced to two minutes.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: The statement of objects and reasons says:

"The country experienced serious power shortages during the last few years affecting the overall economy. A study in depth revealed that it was necessary to restructure and reorganise the electricity supply industry".

DR. SARADISH ROY: On a point of order. There is no quorum.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: What I feel is that the way this analysis that the power shortage was caused...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He may resume his seat. The bell is being rung. Now, there is quorum. Mr. Naik may continue.

15 hrs.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Sir, I feel that the period which has been covered in this analysis was also a period of drought, which was a period of strikes, a period of general unrest and there was a serious problem of the law and order in this country. I therefore feel that the law and order problem which was compounded to a certain extent by the local engineers, junior engineers and others has now been recoiled on them. I hope that the executive order that will follow in view of the fact which says that the board shall comprise of one Electrical Engineer with wide experience. I hope Dr. Rao will also support this—will completely do away with this clause. I request that the Government should not be allergic to these words "Electric Engineer" or any other engineer, because they do a lot of good work. The second point which I would like to place before you is that like the Rail-

[Shri B. V. Naik]

ways, electricity is today or tomorrow fated to get centralised. I think we need not at all be apologetic if we bring in a legislation towards the centralisation of the power in regard to electricity. And in that behalf, the present bill is a step towards a progressive and right direction. But in a sort of a faltering step in the direction of centralisation, it is inevitable that like Railways, power, particularly, electricity—since there are no boundaries for electricity—will have to get centralised and centralisation will mean some persons with multi-discipline knowledge in regard to the whole subject like Mr. K. C. Pant, will have to have a control in order to see that there is a rational distribution of this very very precious and scarce resource in our country. I come from an area which has a major on-going hydro electric project, which is called Kali Hydro-electric project. I do not know what is going to happen in the light of this legislation to the hydro-electric projects like Kali which are at present being implemented through the Mysore Power Corporation. Whether that will be treated as a generating company or not. I do not know. But one of the fall-outs of these major electricity projects and the area particularly the Western Ghat is known to be the power house of this country, is going to have a large number of projects. My district alone, besides Shrawati and Kalindi, is going to have Bedthi project and Aganasini project—4 power projects—within a distance of a hundred miles.

I therefore, feel that the rehabilitation of the people affected by the hydro-electric power projects which has not been a satisfactory record up till now, can only be set right if there is a coordinated action by these generating companies as well as the Central authorities and the State Electricity Boards.

श्री बिबननाथ सिंह (मुनझुनु) : सभापति महोदय, पिछले बीस पच्चीस साल में बिजली

के उत्पादन और खपत में जो वृद्धि हुई है, उसको देखते हुये इस प्रकार के बिल को लाना आवश्यक है। इसका उद्देश्य यह है कि हम बिजली के उत्पादन, विस्तार और खपत को एक राष्ट्रीय दृष्टिकोण से देख सकें।

जहां तक उत्पादन का सम्बन्ध है, हमारी राष्ट्रीय नीति यह होनी चाहिये कि जहां तक हो सके, बिजली का उत्पादन केन्द्र के हाथ में हो रहे। जिस राज्य की सीमा में कोई प्राजेक्ट बनाई जाये, उससे पैदा होने वाली बिजली का एक शेयर उस राज्य को देना चाहिए, लेकिन उसका कुछ हिस्सा केन्द्र के पास रखना चाहिये, ताकि जिन राज्यों में बिजली के उत्पादन की क्षमता और साधन नहीं हैं, उनको बिजली दी जा सके। इससे हमारे देश के ग्रंटर-डेवलप क्षेत्रों को फायदा होगा। बिजली पानी या कोयले से पैदा की जाती है। जिन राज्य में इन दोनों में से कोई भी साधन नहीं हैं, उनके हितों का ध्यान रखना आवश्यक है। जब तक इस सम्बन्ध में कोई निर्णय नहीं किया जाता है, तब तक सेंट्रल इलेक्ट्रिसिटी एथॉरिटी और जेनरेटिंग कम्पनीज को इस ढंग से काम करना चाहिये कि ग्रंटर-डेवलप राज्यों को भी बिजली मिल सके।

15.07 hrs.

[SHRI P. PARTHASARATHY in the Chair]

जहां तक बिजली की खपत का सम्बन्ध है, कृषि और उद्योगों को दी जाने वाली बिजली के रेट्स में बहुत बड़ा फर्क है। कायदा कार को बिजली का सबसे अधिक रेट देना पड़ता है। मेरे राज्य में पिछले तीन साल में बिजली का रेट 13 पैसे पर-यूनिट से बढ़ कर 25 पैसे पर-यूनिट हो गया है। जब हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है, और हम कृषि उत्पादन की ओर अधिक ध्यान देना चाहते हैं, तो यह आवश्यक है कि कृषि के लिए दी जाने वाली बिजली का रेट उद्योगों को

दी जाने वाली बिजली के रेट से अधिक नहीं होना चाहिये—उन दोनों का रेट एक होना चाहिए। कृषि को दी जाने वाली बिजली का रेट कम करना चाहिये और उद्योगों को बिजली के सम्बन्ध में जो कनेक्शन दी जा रही है, उसको करटेल करना चाहिये।

पहले पुलिस का महकमा भ्रष्टाचार के लिए बहुत क्रिटिसाइज होता था। लेकिन अब बिजली का महकमा सबसे करप्ट है। वहाँ लाइन्जमैन से ले कर एक्सीक्यूटिव इंजीनियर तक सब के द्वारा भ्रष्टाचार होता है। लोगों को बिजली का कनेक्शन नहीं मिलता है और कन्ज्यूमर्स का शोषण होता है। मेरा निवेदन है कि बिजली के डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन के सम्बन्ध में कन्ज्यूमर्स के पायंट आफ व्यू को हमेशा सामने रखना चाहिये।

सेंट्रल इलेक्ट्रिसिटी एथारिटी के गठन में इंस्ट्री और लेबर आदि सभी इन्स्टेंस को प्रतिनिधित्व दिया गया है, लेकिन उसमें कृषि का कोई रिप्रेजेंटेटिव नहीं रखा गया है। उसमें जेनरेटिंग स्टेशन, ट्रांसमिशन और सप्लाय, एप्लाइ रिसर्च, एप्लाइड इथानोमिकस और इंस्ट्रुमण्ट, कामर्शाल तथा फिनांशल मामलों में अनुभव-प्राप्त व्यक्ति रखे जायेंगे, लेकिन उसमें एग्रीकल्चर को कोई स्थान नहीं दिया गया है। इसी तरह जेनरेटिंग कम्पनी के बोर्ड आफ डायरेक्टर्स में हैबर को प्रतिनिधित्व दिया जा रहा है, लेकिन एग्रीकल्चरिस्ट्स का कोई प्रतिनिधित्व उसमें नहीं होगा। यह एक बहुत बड़ा लैकुना है। बिजली का सबसे बड़ा कन्ज्यूमर एग्रीकल्चर होने की वजह से उसको इन दोनों सत्थाओं में प्रतिनिधित्व दिया जाना चाहिये।

श्री हरि सिंह (खुर्जा) : समापति महोदय, बिजली मंत्री ने जो बिल पेश किया है, वह बड़ा सामयिक है, उसकी बड़ी मांग थी और वह बहुत कमियों को पूरा करेगा। समय के अभाव के कारण ज्यादा तकलीफ में जाना तो मुश्किल है, लेकिन मैं बताना

चाहता हूँ कि देश में कुल जितनी बिजली पैदा होती है, उसका केवल 13.4 परसेंट खेती और सिंचाई के लिये किसानों को दिया जाता है। इस रेशो को बढ़ाना चाहिए।

सारे देश में यह सच कराया जाये कि दफ्तरों में कितने किसानों को दरखवास्तें बिजली के कनेक्शन के लिये पड़ी हुई हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि हर एक जिले में हजारों की तादाद में ऐसी दरखवास्तें पड़ी हुई हैं। बहुत चक्कर काटने और पूरी कोशिश करने के बावजूद किसानों को बिजली नहीं मिल पाती है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह उसका सर्वे करायें और किसानों को बार फुटिंग पर बिजली दिलवाएं। सर्वे करा कर संसद में इस बात की रखा जाये कि हिन्दुस्तान में इतने किसानों को दरखवास्तें थीं और उसमें इतना हमने पूरा कर दिया। इसके लिये क्लेश प्रोग्राम चलाना होगा। इसके अन्दर उनको प्रायिटी दें। आज जो देहातों में बिजली दी जाती है उसमें भी बहुत से गांवों में बिजली पहुंच पाती है। केवल दो चार खम्भे लगाए और कह दिया कि पूरे गांव में बिजली हो गई। मेरा निवेदन है कि पांचवीं योजना के अन्दर 81 हजार एडीशनल गांवों को बिजली देनी है। जो रफ्तार इस समय चल रही है उससे हमारी पांचवीं योजना का यह लक्ष्य पूरा होना मुश्किल है। मैं चाहूंगा कि किसानों को गारन्टीड बिजली मिले। उसके लिये गारन्टी कर दें कि जब कोई किसान खेतों के लिये बिजली चाहेगा तो उसको बिजली दी जायेगी। ऐसा आदेश आप कर दें तो वह काम पूरा होगा और हमारा देश आगे बढ़ सकेगा।

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): I am supporting this Bill with reluctance and with suspicion. No doubt I congratulate the hon. Minister on the magnificent work he is doing; but I am really afraid of him, because he is so persuasive and is good at getting things done.

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

Mr. Indrajit Gupta was forcefully arguing for a national policy. I am not disagreeing with it. I agree that there should be a national policy for power. Mr. Indrajit Gupta is speaking as a Member from a deficit State. When you speak of a national policy for power, what about the other problems? You cannot take away the surplus power from a State like Kerala which is suffering from scarcities of food and employment. In the case of those problems, there is no national policy. We have to beg for food from Delhi. There is unemployment in Kerala. There is the Siva Sena and there is another Sena in another State which is working against employment for people from Kerala. You are interested in taking away surplus power from Kerala. (*Interruptions*)

We may take other major issues also and can see the disparities. An adult in Punjab consumes 58 ounces of food, whereas in Orissa the intake is 10 ounces. This disparity is there in regard to food. When scarcities and deficits are there, I agree that there should be a national policy in regard to all the items.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Don't you want a national grid?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I agree that Calcutta should be given power. We are not against a national policy. We are not against a national grid. But don't take away something in which a State is in surplus.

Mr. Pant said that it was an innocent bill. I fully agree that there should be a national policy on power and energy. We will definitely support the idea. But it should not be in the case of power alone. When you discuss the question of power and water, you should accept a national policy for food and employment also. The Minister said that in regard to the power projects costing more than Rs. 1 crore, concurrence of the State should be there. That is the position to-day.

In Idikki, you have spent Rs. 160 crores. We are thankful for it. We appeal to you to give us Rs. 10 crores more. It will double the production of power.

A powerful plea has come from different corners for a national policy. My appeal to the hon. Minister is that while he formulates a national policy for power, he should consider the view-points of the surplus States, which are however deficit in very important items like food and employment opportunities. Unilateral introduction of a national policy will be more harmful because power is one of the basic needs of industrial development, it is the attraction for industrial development. Unemployment is very acute in Kerala, and power can attract more industries to the State and provide employment. We need more industrialisation of the State, and power generation can help us in that respect. We are definitely in favour of a national policy in respect of power provided the other needs of Kerala are met by the Government.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH (Sidhi): I welcome this Bill because I believe that it is another step in the long road of our country catching up on our power needs and becoming competitive by world standards, but I feel that the Central Electricity Authority should have also been given a more meaningful charge as regards research in this field. I believe that the very *raison d'être* of this Bill is to provide a forward-looking policy which our country will need for its growing power needs, and I feel, therefore, that this Authority is the best agency through which we can look into our future needs, more so because now we will have to go into unorthodox modes of power generation like MHD or geo-thermal energy harnessing.

I also feel that because this Bill has come before us and because, as the hon. Minister has promised, there might be some more measures coming forward in this regard, it is most ne-

cessary that we look at things from an economical national point of view. I am referring to this point because one of the most attractive hydro-electric schemes, namely the Rihand dam, is pending for sanction because of the dispute between certain States. I feel that if a thought of this nature, which is behind this Bill, were to come to the forefront of our national policies, these important projects will find early completion and Madhya Pradesh, which was surplus till 18 months ago and has suddenly become deficit in power, would not be starved of power.

श्री नाथराम ग्रहिरवार (टीकमगढ़) : माननीय समापति जी, जो विधेयक सदन के सम्मुख प्रस्तुत किया गया उसका हृदय से समर्थन करते हुए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि आज देश में विद्युत् के मामले में सरकार अपनी नीति निर्धारित करने जा रही है। मेरा इस सम्बन्ध में निवेदन है कि देश में जैसे आपने एग्री-कल्चर और शिक्षा के मामले में एक राष्ट्रीय नीति निर्धारित की उसी तरह से विद्युत् के मामले में भी राष्ट्रीय नीति निर्धारित करनी चाहिये। आप इण्डस्ट्रीज को 25 पैसे यूनिट की दर से बिजली सप्लाई करते हैं लेकिन जो किसान हैं उनको 50 पैसे यूनिट की दर से बिजली मिल रही है। किसानों को बिजली, पानी, फर्टिलाइजर के लिये कितना ही खर्चा करना पड़ता है उसके बाद भी उसको ज्यादा रेट पर बिजली दे रहे हैं। जब कि दूसरी तरफ उद्योग-धंधों में कम रेट वसूल किया जाता है। हमारे देश में कृषि का क्षेत्र काफी पिछड़ा हुआ है, वहां पर किसानों को बिजली के मामले में प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिये।

दूसरी बात यह है कि प्रान्तों में जो बिजली बोर्ड बने हैं उनके जो अध्यक्ष होंगे वे कौन होंगे? अभी आपने कह दिया कि टेक्नीशियन्स फुल टाइम मेम्बर होंगे लेकिन अध्यक्ष कौन लोग होंगे? क्या वे रिटायर्ड

आई० ए० एस० आफिसर होंगे? अभी तो एलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्डों में आई० ए० एस० बैठे हुये हैं जो कि बिजली के सम्बन्ध में कुछ भी नहीं जानते। इसी तरह से एग्रीकल्चर के लिये जहां पर टैक्निकल आदमी चाहिये वहां भी सरकार ने आई० ए० एस० अफसर बिठा रखे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये।

तीसरी बात यह है कि मध्य प्रदेश दो तीन साल पहले बिजली के मामले में सरप्लस था लेकिन आज वहां पर बिजली की कमी है। मध्य प्रदेश में कोयले का अपार भण्डार है। वहां पर खनिज सम्पदा का दोहन नहीं हो पाता है। अभी पिछले दिनों सुना था कि सीध में सुपर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन बनने जा रहा है। किन्तु इस सम्बन्ध में अभी तक कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हो रही है। अगर पिटहैड पर आप थर्मल पावर स्टेशन लगाते हैं तो खर्चा कम आता है। अब आपने इसमें रख दिया है कि थर्मल पावर स्टेशन वहां होगा जहां ट्रांसपोर्ट होगा। या तो आप पिटहैड पर लायें या जो डेवलप एरियाज होंगे वहां लायेंगे।

जहां तक इन्टर-स्टेट का मामला है, उसमें भी हम बहुत दुखी हैं। मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश के बीच रिहन्द के सम्बन्ध में तय हुआ था कि 15 परसेंट बिजली मध्य प्रदेश को मिलेगी लेकिन जबसे बांध बना है एक परसेंट बिजली भी नहीं मिली है। यही हालत माताटीला की है, वहां से भी बिजली नहीं मिलती है। अब सरकार ने जो नीति अपनाई है कि केन्द्रीय स्तर पर देखभाल करने की नीति अपनाई जा रही है उस नीति के मुताबिक जहां कम बिजली पैदा होती है, उन क्षेत्रों में अधिक बिजली मिलनी चाहिये। लेकिन साथ ही साथ आपको अधिक थर्मल स्टेशन बनाने चाहिये और नेशनल ग्रिड के जरिये जहां पर बिजली कम है, वहां पहुंचाना चाहिये। दूसरे तरीकों

१ नाथूराम महिषार

से बिजली के ले जाने का खर्चा बहुत ज्यादा पड़ेगा, नेशनल ग्रिड ही एक ऐसा तरीका है जिससे खर्चा कम पड़ेगा, आप जगह जगह सब-स्टेशन्स बनाते हुये पूरे देश में बिजली ले जा सकते हैं।

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में किसानों को बिजली का कनेक्शन प्राप्त करने में बहुत परेशानी होती है। दो-तीन साल हुए मैं अपने क्षेत्र में किसानों के पास गया और उनसे कहा कि आप लोग जमानत का पैसा जमा कीजिये, आपको बिजली मिल सकती है। लोगों ने कुआँ पर बिजली की मोटरें लगवालीं, लेकिन जब कनेक्शन के लिये बिजली वालों के पास गये तो वहाँ पैसा दिये बिना कनेक्शन नहीं मिलता। मध्य प्रदेश में इतनी खराब हालत है कि पहले हम कहते थे कि पटवारी बहुत दुखदायी है, लेकिन अब ये बिजली वाले दुखदायी हो गये हैं। मेरा सुझाव है कि जिला स्तर पर एक डिस्ट्रिक्ट एडवाइजरी कमेटी बनाई जाए, जिसमें जनप्रतिनिधि त्व एवं एम० पी०, एम० एल० ए० हों और देखें कि बिजली के कनेक्शन के लिये कितनी दरखास्तें आई हैं और वे कनेक्शन्स दिये जाने के लिये जल्द से जल्द निर्णय करें। आज लोग इंजीनियरों के पीछे घूमते रहते हैं, कभी मिलते हैं, कभी भोपाल चले जाते हैं—काम होने में बहुत दिक्कतें आती हैं। अगर लोगों को समय पर बिजली नहीं मिलेगी तो उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ सकेगा। लोगों को कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये ऐसी एडवाइजरी कमेटी शीघ्र स्थापित की जानी चाहिये, ताकि लोगों की समस्याएँ दूर हो सकें और वे भी देश की प्रगति में अपना हाथ बटा सकें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विषय का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री निरंजित मिश्र : (मोतीहारी) : सभापति जी, यह बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट बिल है,

मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ। लेकिन एक बात मुझे कहनी है—आपने कुछ ऐसे नियम बनाये हैं कि अगर किसी को 5 हास-पावर या 10 हास-पावर बिजली मिली है और अगर वह उतना न चलाये, तो उसके ऊपर टैरिफ लगाया गया है कि उतना पैसा उसको देना ही पड़ेगा। यह ठीक नहीं है, जो जितना इस्तेमाल करे, उतने का पैसा दे, न इस्तेमाल करे तो उससे पैसा नहीं लेना चाहिये।

हमारे गोबले साहब यहां बैठे हुये हैं, उन्होंने अभी संविधान संशोधन पास कराये हैं, उनमें यह भी था कि डिस्टरिक्ट दूर होनी चाहिये, इन-इक्वेलिटी दूर होनी चाहिये। लेकिन आप जरा उत्तर बिहार में देखिये—वहां की पापुलेशन 3 करोड़ है, लेकिन पर-आवर 10 किलोवाट बिजली मिलती है, जब कि पंजाब में 221 किलोवाट है, तमिल-नाडु में 144 किलोवाट है, महाराष्ट्र में 174 किलोवाट है—इस तरह की डिस्टरिक्टों को आप कब तक बरदाश्त करते रहेंगे। देश के उत्पादन के लिये बिजली बहुत जरूरी है, लेकिन उत्तर बिहार, जिसके नजदीक में कोयला खाने हैं फिर भी वहां सबसे कम बिजली है।

दूसरी बात—डा० के० एल० राव साहब यहां बैठे हैं और इन के सक्सेसर बिजली मंत्री भी यहां बैठे हैं—यह तय हुआ था कि चकिया में बिजली का कारखाना लगाया जाएगा, लेकिन यह फैसला नहीं हो पाया था कि चकिया में लगेगा या मुजफ्फरपुर में लगेगा—उसके बारे में क्या फैसला हुआ? तीन करोड़ की पापुलेशन को बिजली नहीं मिल रही है, बतलाइये हम क्या करें?

25 साल की आजादी के बाद अब हम कहें श्री मोहनदास कर्मचन्द गांधी को बुलाने जायें, ताकि वे आकर हमारा कल्याण करें। आज गांधी के अन्दर बहुत से पम्प बिजली के वगैर बँकार पड़े हुये हैं। मैं पन्त जी से यही कहूँगा कि आप जरा उत्तर बिहार की तीन

करोड़ पापुलेशन की हालत को स्वयं देखिये। पंजाब का पापुलेशन कितना है, हरियाणा का पापुलेशन कितना है, महाराष्ट्र का कितना है और तमिलनाडु का कितना है? इसके मुकाबले में नार्थ बिहार का पापुलेशन तीन करोड़ से ज्यादा है और उसको कितनी बिजली मिलती है? अगर इस तरह से सरकार एक खास एरिया के साथ व्यवहार करती रहेगी, तो आप यह समझ लीजिये कि, जैसा श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त ने कहा है, यहां पर नक्सेलाइट मूवमेंट रुकने वाला नहीं है और वह होने ही वाला है। हमारी जो स्टेट है, उसका नेपाल से सम्बन्ध है और उधर चाइना से सम्बन्ध है। इसलिये मेरा कहना यह है कि सब एरियाज के साथ एक सा बर्ताव कीजिये और सब एरियाज को बिजली दीजिये।

मेरे जो दो एमेंडमेंट्स हैं, मैं उनके बारे में जब मौका आएगा तो कहूंगा लेकिन इस वक्त मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि बिजली के बारे में पन्त जी को हर स्टेट के लोगों को बुला कर बातचीत करनी चाहिये और उनकी जो कठिनाइयां हैं, उनको मालूम करके उनको दूर करना चाहिये।

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to stress one or two points, specially with regard to labour.

As far as the national power policy is concerned, it should include the electricity workers also because, under the 20-Point Programme also it has been stated that, to streamline the entire process and the system, in order to eliminate the losses, it is necessary to take the cooperation of the workers and that they should have effective participation in the management. Therefore, in the Board and also in the Central Electricity Authority which is going to be created now, the trade union representatives should find a place.

As far as the qualifications of the Members are concerned, one of the

Members of the Authority must be one who has the capacity and experience to organize the workers. There should not be any charge against him of suppressing the workers or taking drastic action against them or unnecessarily interfering with the workers' rights and also of corruption. Where there are such charges, they should not be taken.

For a uniform national policy, what I would like to suggest is this. The entire object is that we should have abundant generation of power. This would need a guideline or a directive, and I do not find any such thing here. What I would suggest is this, wherever there are economically viable projects, whether in Orissa or West Bengal or Kerala or in any other State, irrespective of political pressure and other things, we should take up because the entire national policy should be to develop such economically viable projects which could fulfil our aim of generating electricity in abundance. For that purpose, what I want to say is this. There should be the concurrence of both the State and the Authority. Take, for instance, some project which is being undertaken. The establishment of generating station requires many things. Suppose, it is on a river. Then, it affects the riparian rights, development of coal mines, drawal of water from major rivers for cooling purposes, and so on. All these social aspects are connected with this. It is not that we are opposed to generation by the Centre. Rather, we insist that it is the Centre who should have the exclusive right to develop these things. But, at the same time, the direction must be for regional development. The direction must be to see that in States like Orissa where natural resources are in abundance, electricity as an instrument should be utilised for regional development and for elimination of regional imbalances.

श्री राम हेड्राऊ (रामटेक) : सम्पत्ति महोदय, बिजली, व्यक्ति एवं राष्ट्र के

[Shri D. K. Panda]

जीवन में प्रकाश और शक्ति प्रदान करती है। किन्तु बिजली के पर्याप्त उत्पादन, उचित संचालन और सुयोग्य वितरण के अभाव में उम्मीदवारों को हमेशा बिजली के घक्के खाने पड़ते हैं। मेरे क्षेत्र में एक दस एकड़ के किसान से बिजली का कनेक्शन लेने के लिए 55,000 रुपये की मांग विद्युत बोर्ड द्वारा की गई। बिजली विभाग में जो भ्रष्टाचार व्याप्त है और जनता को सताया जाता है। भ्रष्टाचार और जनता को सताने की जो नीति है उन से लोग बहुत तंग आ गए हैं। दरखास्तें करते रहने के बाद भी उन्हें तुरन्त इंसाफ नहीं मिलता है।

कुछों को बिजली उचित मात्रा में और उचित समय पर नहीं मिलती है। इसका परिणाम यह होता है कि फल सूख जाती है और किसान बेचारा चिल्लाता रह जाता है। विदर्भ में जो बिजली निर्मित होती है उस में से अस्सी प्रतिशत बिजली बम्बई और पश्चिम महाराष्ट्र के कारखानों के लिए दे दी जाती है और बचो हुई बीस प्रतिशत बिजली में से भी विदर्भ को बड़ी कंजूसी से बिजली की सप्लाई की जाती है। उसका परिणाम यह होता है कि वहां के कारखानों और गृह उद्योग चलाने वालों को बिजली नहीं मिल पाती है। यह जो असंतुलन है इसको दूर किया जाना चाहिये। इस दृष्टि से मैं कहूंगा कि विदर्भ में बिजली निर्माण के दो केन्द्र तुरन्त स्थापित किये जाने चाहियें। वहां पर वेतगंगा, मैनगंगा और बर्या जैसी विशाल नदियां बहती हैं। वेतगंगा जल विद्युत प्रकल्प की यदि स्थापना हो तो विदर्भ के लिए यह बरदान सिद्ध होगा।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं और चाहता हूं कि

सभी लोगों को, सभी अविकसित भागों को विद्युत की पर्याप्त सप्लाई हो और देश-विकास में उसका पूरा पूरा उपयोग आम जनता के और पिछड़े हुए लोगों के हित में किया जाए।

SHRI K. C. PANT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Members, who have participated in this debate, and for the general support they have given to the Bill which I have brought before the House. I find that they have made references to many aspects of power policy, which may not fall strictly within the four corners of the debate which is based on the Bill that we are discussing. Nevertheless, I was interested in hearing their views on these aspects also and since the House does not have many opportunities to discuss power, I was happy that on this occasion, Members took the opportunity to express their views. I have made a note of them and I shall try my best to benefit from them.

References were made by many hon. Members to regional imbalances. I recognise the validity of the points, for instance, made by our senior leader, Shri Bibhuti Misra, about the difference in per capita consumption of electricity in different parts of the country and the fact that North Bihar is backward. There are other pockets in the country also and one need not dilate on that; but I would only make one point and that is, that backwardness of a region cannot be removed merely by supply of electricity, but electricity should be supplied where load builds up, I know there is a hen-and-egg situation, but I would say that in the coordinated programme for the development of a backward area, power is important and it is with that approach in mind that the Rural electrification Corporation, for instance is drawing up plans and programme to help rural electrification in those States which are backward, and to those areas which are backward and to supply electricity at

concessional rates to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. These are having some impact, but that cannot be a substitute for what the State has to do in this matter itself. This is one aspect which was raised by many members and I thought I should refer to it in passing.

I shall now try to refer briefly to the points made by the members, seriatim, if I can, but I cannot possibly answer every point that has been made.

Dr. Roy said that the Government brought forward an ordinance and his objection is that we did not withdraw the Bill. The point is that we introduced the Bill in the Rajya Sabha because we thought that it was urgent and we would like to pass it as quickly as possible. But it could not be taken up in the Rajya Sabha. Then we were still anxious to get it adopted quickly. So, an ordinance was passed and already people knew about it because when we introduced it in the Rajya Sabha these provisions were known. I think he should compliment me for at least having brought it before the country through the Rajya Sabha. What is his objection to that? After the ordinance has been passed, I have come to the Lok Sabha as quickly as possible. He himself said it was 20 days. I do not remember the number of days. But how could he say that I did not come to the House as quickly as possible? He used some phrases saying that by doing this I am somehow hoodwinking the people. Now, these are his favourite expressions, not only his but his Party's. Therefore, my suggestion to him with all respect is not to devalue these terms unnecessarily. Let him use these terms at least when there is some justification. He can argue the case. Let him argue the case but to use them in such circumstances and to devalue them in such circumstances will not help because next time when he uses them, everybody will know what he means thereby. So, I suggest for his own sake, let him

be more careful in the very use of these terms.

He said that the Centre was taking all the power and not respecting the federal structure of the Constitution. We heard many forceful and eloquent speeches in the House and it was suggested that we had not gone far enough in the direction of centralisation. Therefore, as in most of the other cases these days, I think, my hon. friend finds himself in the minority of one.....

DR. SARADISH ROY: Which are the State Governments that have objected to this Bill?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Many State Governments have many points of view in these matters and I am not suppressing anything. The State Governments are very eloquent. They are not the people who can be suppressed. What their views were and what their pleas were, you can read about them.

But the point that I would like to make to Dr. Rao and my friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta, who, amongst others, referred to the need for centralisation is that we have discussed this matter with the State Governments I think at three Ministerial conferences—three times. Besides that, when we were considering the provisions of this particular Bill, again we discussed it with them. The State Governments' point of view, at least in respect of some States, was represented by Shri Vayalar Ravi today though I think he was confusing the national grid with the ownership of the power stations. But I can see the point because I have heard the States make that point. Therefore, I would suggest that what we have done here in this Bill is what ought to be done at this stage of our development and I think I have no hesitation in saying that considering the complexities of the subject we have come up with a solution which, I think, is ideally suited to to-day's situation. We have

[Shri K. C. Pant]

to take into account the fact that power is a concurrent subject. The States are also not only involved in it but they have a preponderating interest in the generation and distribution of power. It has been my attempt ever since I have come to this Ministry to increase central generation and it is in pursuit of that policy that we have taken these steps. We are trying to have four large super-thermal stations in the country in the Central sector. Two of these stations would be 2,000 m.w. The third one would be 1200 m.w. and the fourth one would be 1000 m.w. The proportion of Central generation to total generation would go up considerably. We can take up many worthwhile projects and in a sense the States are also happy if we take up these projects, because lot of resources are required and perhaps we would be in a better position than them to execute them quickly and in time.

While we have a policy in this direction to increase central generation, I would say, the States also have a role to play. And I don't see any reason to do away with that advantage which we have today. To do away with that role would lead to many complications. The States have fairly large structures built up in the field of power industry. Each department in each State has got a large number of employees. They have their own power stations. They have their own network of transmission and distribution lines. I do not think it is a practical and feasible suggestion to take over these things. The implications of this suggestion must be clearly understood. Will be able to supply power to every village? Everyone who spoke about the problems relating to supply of power in the rural areas. They voiced the problems faced by the kisans, that he does not get connection without having to pay money, then even when the connection is given, when he wants it for the crop, at that time he does not get it, and

so on. One hears these complaints. If we take up in the Central sector there would be greater repercussions. I do not think we should regard States as non-functioning bodies. They are functioning bodies and they are best fitted to handle these matters. Distribution is done by them. My friend would be glad to know that we are going in for 400 KV line. There will be 400 KV line connecting many of these generating stations and I think this will be the skeleton of our National Grid. Shri Indrajit Gupta referred to inter-State lines. We are financing Inter-Statelines from the Centre and where necessary these inter-State line construction would be handled by the Hydro Power Corporation. We have made a provision whereby we will be able to take it up if necessary.

Sir, there is no hesitation to move towards a national grid. I would like to make it quite clear that our policy is to have a national grid. A reference was made to regional grids, I would like to assure my friends, Shri P. K. Deo that it is not we are slowing the progress towards a national grid but strengthening of regional grids is necessary in the intermediate stage in moving towards the national grid. Even in relation to the process of setting up a grid rather it is not something which will come up overnight. All the time, in each State, there is need for a better grid within the state. There is need for a better grid between the regions which requires to be strengthened. That is how the national grid will come in. Even to-day theoretically it is possible to transmit power, say, from Bhakra system to Cape Comorin. But the links are so weak in many places, it is wrong to call it a national grid.

Therefore, there is no hesitation in this matter but the process will take time. In the meantime there seems to be some confusion about the transmission of power from the surplus State to a deficit. State, I think Shri Vayalar Ravi—he is not here now—referred to

the disadvantages accruing to his State. But, I would like to remove this misunderstanding from his mind. He referred to the fact that by giving power to a deficit State, Kerala would somehow lose or there would be a disadvantage accruing to Kerala. Nothing can be further from the correct position because, if Kerala has surplus power, it is not giving that power free to any other State. It is earning money for it. And I can assure my Kerala friends that they are earning money for that. The only point is that they cannot waste it. (Interruptions) I would say with all respect to Shri Tiwary that you cannot waste power but you can only use it for which you should have load centres. You cannot use power just like that; You cannot consume it.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): But, there are not adequate infrastructures in our State. That is why we have to give power at cheap rate.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am not here to solve all your problems. But, I am only saying that if your State can use power, let them use it. If you cannot, You sell that power and you are gaining on it. In the meantime, you can build up the load centres. I am for it. I am only saying that it is sometimes a wrong notion to think of not having a grid. Many States want to have inter-state grids. By holding on to the surplus power they are gaining nothing, but they are also gaining something by selling the power, their surplus power. I want to clear this misunderstanding in order to persuade the States that, in their own interest, if there is a deficit State, they should give surplus power to that State. If it is a surplus State, in the interest of earning some money for their surplus power, they should readily agree to have inter-state lines, this is something which is so self-evident that I am sorry to have to state that here. Another point was made by many hon. Members. I shall here try to cover as many points as I can. A point was made by several Members that power was being given at concessional rates to Birlas for their

aluminium plant. I think this was raised by several C. P. (M) Members as well as by Shri P. K. Deo. It has been revised and it has gone up from 2 paise per K.Wh. last year to 12 paise per K.Wh. plus the fuel surcharge. The rate now is over 12 paise per unit. You must understand that aluminium is a very heavy consumer of electricity.

Although I do not want to go into the question of tariffs, many hon. Members have made a reference to uniform tariffs and to the desirability of reducing the tariff for agriculture etc., etc. When I come with the financial Bill later that would be an appropriate occasion to discuss all these matters. The point that I would like to make is that it is good if you understand the implications of stepping up this rate from 2 paise per unit to 12 paise per unit for aluminium industry. It has certain implications in the cost of aluminium and aluminium is used mainly by the electricity industry for cables. If effects the price of cables. So, when you step up the price of power it affects the cost of aluminium and the aluminium produce. Nevertheless, this has been done because we do not want to give them cheap power. But please understand the other implication also and if you understand the other implication you can suggest to us as to what is the aluminium price acceptable to you and also work back as to what is the cost of power acceptable to you. Power is a kind of raw-material for the aluminium industry.

Then, Sir, Dr. Roy raised the question of foreign companies delaying the supply of machinery and making undue profit. This is a case in which he seems to have lost track of the recent developments. Now, we are not importing machinery for power production. It is a thing of the past. BHEL and some other concerns are manufacturing all the machinery.

Sir, he also talked of the power crisis. That again luckily is a thing of

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the past and in most parts of the country, I am glad to say, compared to the situation two years ago the power situation is very much better and easier today. There are some pockets where there are difficulties and some States like Maharashtra and Karnataka suffer from these difficulties. I agree with Dr. Roy that generation of power has not grown as fast as the demand.

Dr. Rao referred to the question of having a national power policy and he said that it should be by Government and not Central Electricity Authority. We have not amended the reference to the development of a uniform power policy. It is the same as it was in the previous Act. We have not changed it and Government would be interested in evolving a national power policy. He also referred to the presence of part time members in the Central Electricity Authority. Let me explain as to why the part time members are there. We have given to the Central Electricity Authority the task of finally giving techno-economic approval to the projects which come from the States and also for Central projects. Because of this, the Finance Ministry, the Planning Commission and other Ministries felt that if they were not represented on the CEA when we considered the power projects for approval, they would have to again repeat the process of examination of these projects. We did not want to duplicate that. Therefore, we have provided for this part time representation or non-expert representation. It is official, but it is non-expert presentation in the CEA. But by wording it subtly we have left the door open to get some experts, if we can find them. This is the general position.

There are a few non-engineers to whom Dr. Rao made a reference. They are put there deliberately, people experienced in finance, industry, in commerce. As I explained in my opening speech, power is becoming very capital intensive and these power units are very large units with a lot of capital invested in them. They have to be

managed with the best skills we have. Those skills are not only in engineering, but skills in accounting and modern management of various kinds including commercial. Therefore, I think the CEA must have all these disciplines represented on it. Otherwise, it will not be able to take care of the multi-disciplinary approach required for modern management of these huge undertakings.

Shri Narasimha Reddy raised the question of a super thermal station in the south. He knows that we do intend to have one super thermal station in the central sector in the South. We have sent to the World Bank two project reports from South India. One is related to the exploitation of the lignite at Neyveli and the other to coal in Ramagundam. Taking a broad approach and here we have talked of a national power policy—I would say that in South India where two of the States have total hydro systems, Kerala and Karnataka, and two others have reserves of lignite and coal, we should have a plan to develop the resources and the power structure in such a way that we can utilise the lignite of Tamil Nadu and coal of Andhra Pradesh to have thermal power in these two States not only for themselves but to supplement the power with the hydro States and ultimately think of a southern grid with the hydro resources and thermal resources supplementing each other. With a hydel base provided and thermal resources, one can have a very rational system in the south.

In North India, I would say that along the Himalayas there is still vast potential of hydro resources. Luckily all along the plains not too far from the Himalayas, there is a coal belt stretching from Bengal to Maharashtra. Again in due course it is a combination of these two which will provide the proper mix for north India. Therefore, I think we are well placed in the matter of macro power planning.

Referring to specific plans, we can say that there can be one central super

thermal station in the south, and one super thermal power station perhaps jointly built by the four States in the south. I think this is feasible. I have discussed it with some of the States, but I will not say more about it till I have discussed it with all the States and have got their reactions. In that way, perhaps we can have two big super thermal stations, based on coal and lignite, and link it with the grid in the southern region.

SHRI P. R. SHENOY (Udipi): Can we not have a nuclear power station in Karnataka?

SHRI K. LAKKAPA (Tumkur): Thermal station also. That point may be replied.

SHRI K. C. PANT: You will have to make a choice between hydel and other sources. There are no absolute answers in these cases. It is all comparative. At a given point, would you like to have this or would you like to have that? You cannot have both. You will have ultimately to decide whether you prefer thermal power station or hydel power station.

There are advantages in both. Now, they are a little better off than what they were.

16 hrs.

SHRI P. K. DEO: What about the Indravati project?

SHRI K. C. PANT: It has been pending with the Planning Commission. What can I do? How can we approve of it?

SHRI P. K. DEO: You put some muzzle in it.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I think you have enough muscle. Now, Shri Shankar Dayal Singh had asked me to ensure that the CEA should undertake National Load surveys which determine the requirement of power in different regions. Already that is being done and

in fact we have nearly completed the 10th load survey. So, this aspect of investigating the future requirements of power has already been done by us. Then, he referred to rural electrification and he said that due to political considerations his scheme went somewhere else. I thought that he was one of the most vocal Members in this House and I am surprised if there is anybody in this House who can take away his scheme. In any case, he will be glad to know that I am thinking of setting up a special committee of my Consultative Committee which will go into the question of the functioning of the Rural Electrification Corporation Schemes. Many hon. Members have privately expressed to me their difficulties and their problems in respect of rural electrification schemes and, therefore, I have asked some of my colleagues in the Consultative Committee to go round and look into these things and I think this will meet the approval of the House.

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: The Members of Parliament can be the members of this Committee.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I do not think that really the CEA is a body where you should ask for representation of Members of Parliament because it is an expert body ultimately.

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: There are some expert Members in the House also, like Dr. Rao.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Then why should you consider that they would be excluded? Now, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that the super power thermal stations were not going through because of disputes regarding locations. There is really no dispute regarding location. Therefore, I think that he has got some wrong information.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Some States are forming some companies and there is a multiplicity of agencies.

SHRI K. C. PANT: The second point he talked about is multiplicity of agencies in this Bill. There is no multi-

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plicity of agencies in this Bill. If States get together and form a generating company, that would be a very desirable development but I would not call it a multiplicity of agencies. These are agencies which are required to separate generation from power. But it does not bring in a quantitative difference or a qualitative multiplicity of agencies. They would be agencies of some kind, that is for the generation of power and it is a deliberate advice which we are giving to States that we would like them to set up separate agencies because we see the advantages. And one State, that is, Karnataka, is now constructing the Kalinadi hydro-power project through a company. They found it wholly satisfactory and somebody asked whether Karnataka Corporation could be deemed to be one of the generating companies. My answer to that is 'Yes'. It would be one of the generating companies and others are free to set up a similar generating companies. Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi has raised a point which I think is not really a point. If he reads it properly, he will understand the point. But he has not read the word 'or'. Now I think, he has seen that.

Shri Mahajan referred to the gas turbine for Maharashtra. One has to be very certain that the gas is available and the availability of gas is not confirmed, as far as I know. Therefore, I cannot proceed with this unless that is taken care of. He also referred to the sanctioning of projects of Maharashtra. We have sanctioned a number of projects in Maharashtra. I have given the list only recently and he is welcome to have a look at it. Some of the projects which he mentioned have other implications. I do not want to go into them now.

श्री राम हेडार्क : विदर्भ में कोई प्रोजेक्ट सैंक्शन हुआ है

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : विदर्भ में कई प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं क्योंकि वहां पर काफी

कोयला है। चन्द्रपुर में बड़ा ग्रन्थ प्रोजेक्ट है और मैं खुद वहां जा कर देख आया हूँ।

Mr. Naik said that electrical engineer has been taken out of the list of members and created an impression, by referring to Dr. Rao, that we were doing it deliberately. I have gone through it again and I find they have not been taken out. I do not know how he got that wrong impression.

Shri Panda referred to the need to have the concurrence of the States along with the CEA when projects are approved. I think that goes counter to what Mr. Indrajit Gupta said earlier.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I have limited it to the social aspects.

SHRI K. C. PANT: You are saying that States should be consulted. He is saying "Don't consult the States." Whatever the reasons, the end effect is there. You should agree on the end effect.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: We have total agreement. I only suggested that with regard to these aspects, not merely information should be sent to them, but previous consultation should be there.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Shri Rana Bahadur Singh referred to MHD and geothermal research. Research has been included specifically this time as one of the functions of CEA and both MHD and geothermal research is done not by the CEA but elsewhere. I need not refer to it in great detail here.

I may tell Ahirwarji that a pithead super thermal station will come up at M.P. Also 15 per cent of power is going from Riband to M.P. since last year. Earlier this was not there, but since last year, it is going.

श्री दिव नाथ सिंह (मुम्बई) : इंडस्ट्री और एग्रीकल्चर के कन्जम्प्शन यूनिट

रेट्स में बहुत बड़ा फर्क है, इस के बारे में भी कुछ बताइए ।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : रेट्स के बारे में मैं कुछ नहीं कर सकता ।

Each State determines the rates for different consumers. I cannot impose any rates.

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी (गोपालगंज) : श्री बिभूति मिश्र ने कहा था कि बिहार इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड ने एक नियम बनाया है कि चाहे बिजली जलाएँ या न जलाएँ 10 रुपये एच०पी० के हिसाब से बे रूपाया चार्ज कर लेवे हैं । इस का नतीजा यह होता है कि एक-एक आदमी को 600, 600 रूपाया देना पड़ जाता है जबकि वह केवल 200 रुपये की बिजली जलाता है ।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : हर राज्य सरकार को यह निर्धारित करना पड़ता है कि किस तरह के उन के यहां रेट्स हों और कितने मिनिमम रेट्स वे अपने यहां लगाए । इस मामले में राज्य सरकारों की जो भी योजना है, उस में मैं दखल नहीं दे सकता ।

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी : सलाह तो दे सकते हैं ?

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : सलाह तो आप भी दे सकते हैं । हमारा सलाह देना ठीक नहीं है क्योंकि यह राज्यों के करने की बात है । अलग से उन से बात कर सकते हैं लेकिन औपचारिक रूप से उन्हें सलाह देना ठीक नहीं है क्योंकि यह उन का काम है ।

I think I have answered most of the points raised. I would conclude by thanking the members once again for their constructive suggestions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the clauses. I think there are no amendments to Clause 2.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3—(Amendment of section 2.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are amendments No. 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 in the name of Dr. K. L. Rao.

DR. K. L. RAO: I am not moving.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is an amendment No. 39 in the name of Mr. D. K. Panda.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 2,—

for "Company" substitute "Corporation" (39)

The word 'Corporation' has a different and genuine implication; it will be definitely more befitting than the word 'company'. I do not want to speak much on it; but let it be accepted.

SHRI K. C. PANT: It is under the Company Law that this will be set up. We may call it a corporation, or a company. It does not make a difference. If it has to be a statutory corporation, it will have to come before the House. Otherwise there is no difference.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 39 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 39 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now about clause 4. No amendments have been moved to it.

The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4A (New)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now clause 4A. It is a new clause.

SHRI P. K. DEO: I beg to move:

Page 4,—

after line 39, insert—

'4A. After section 3 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

"3A. The Central Electricity Authority shall fix up uniform tariff of power generated by—

- (i) Hydro electricity projects;
- (ii) Thermal projects;
- (iii) Atomic power projects

so that agriculture, industry and rural electrification may get a boost." (15)

So far as the freedom of the States to regulate the electric tariff is concerned, I would like to suggest that there should be a national guideline

issued to the various States. We are given to understand that the Government of India are about to evolve a formula so far as the tariff is concerned, varying from 6 paise to 13 paise, depending on the mode of generation. If it is purely hydro, it is 6 paise; if it is purely thermal, it is 13 paise; and in between if it is a combination of both. I do not know how far my information is correct. I hope some light will be thrown in this regard and if possible a directive might go to the various States to have uniformity as far as practicable, so that agriculture, industry and rural electrification can really get a boost.

SHRI K. C. PANT: It is much cheaper to generate hydro-electric power than to generate thermal power. It costs more if you generate from coal or from nuclear sources. So, the complexity of the factors is very vast, the range is very wide, and even in thermal power, it depends on all kinds of factors, including the distance from the pithead etc. Therefore, I do not think that we can issue a directive to the States to have certain uniform rates until one goes very deep into this matter. So, I cannot interfere with the tariff structure of the States. That is why I said earlier that I would not like to interfere with the tariff structure of the States.

SHRI P. K. DEO: I would like to withdraw my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has he the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

Amendment No. 15 was, by leave withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clauses 6 and 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 6 and 7 were added to the Bill

Clause 8—(Insertion of new section 15A).

SHRI M. C. DAGA: I beg to move: Page 6, line 38,—

after "organising workers" insert—

"as well as in representing workers' interest in the Generating Company" (3)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna): I beg to move:

Page 6, line 38,—

after "organising workers" insert—

"and defending and safeguarding their rights and privileges before the Generating Company or Corporation;" (28)

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I beg to move: Page 6, line 18,—

add at the end—

"in accordance with the National Power Policy of removing regional imbalances" (41)

Page 6, line 25,—

add at the end—

"in accordance with the National Power Policy of removing regional imbalances" (42)

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I beg to move:

Page 6,—

after line 30, insert—

"provided that local interests will be represented in the form of part-time members to an adequate extent, being not less than a third of the total number of members." (36)

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : श्रीमान्, मुझे केवल एक बात कहनी है कि आप जब कम्पनी फॉर्म कर रहे हैं, और 20 सूत्री कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत तथा अभी आप ने जो संविधान संशोधन विधेयक पास किया है उस में लेबर पार्टिसिपेशन की बात रखी है तो मेरा कहना है कि कम्पनी के अन्दर एक डायरेक्टर वर्कर्स का भी हो ।

Why should he not be appointed one of the directors of the company? Where you are having so many directors, you kindly appoint as one of the directors a person who is a worker in the company.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति जी, माननीय डागा जी ने ठीक बात कही । मेरे संशोधन का आशय भी करीब करीब वही है । जहां बोर्ड आफ डायरेक्टर्स की योग्यता की बात कही गई है जिस के सिलसिले में (ग) में उल्लेख है organising workers जो श्रमजीवियों को संगठित कर सके उसी के आगे हम चाहते हैं कि :

"and defending and safeguarding their rights and privileges before the Generating Company or Corporation;"

ऐसे व्यक्ति उसमें जरूर रखें जो मजदूरों को केवल संगठित ही न करें; बल्कि उनके स्वार्थों को देख सकें, उनकी कठिनाइयों, मांगों का हल निकालने में उनकी मदद कर सकें । अगर वह ऐसा नहीं कर सके तो मजदूरों का विश्वास उन्हें प्राप्त नहीं होगा और बिजली पैदा करने वाली कंपनी होगी, उसमें गड़बड़ी होगी, हड़तालें होंगी, बेराब होंगे और तरह तरह के आन्दोलन होंगे । (अन्तर्वाहवाहं)

श्री शंकर दयान सिंह : बेराब नहीं होंगे ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : शंकर दयाल जी, आपके कहने से तो मैं मानने वाला नहीं हूँ ।

इसलिये ऐसे लोगों को जो मजदूरों के बीच में जा नहीं सकते हैं, उनको न रखा जाये । मेरे संशोधन का यहो आशय है, मेरे ब्याल से मंत्री महोदय इसको अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं क्योंकि उनको वास्तुमूर्ति ।

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Sir, the purport of my amendment is to represent in these generating companies some local interests and to provide them part-time members. In the course of the thoughtful reply to the debate, the hon. Minister said that we cannot take up the distribution of electricity to every nook and corner of the country. But we have been distributing letters, telegrams, telephones, wires, etc. for the last hundred years. I think, we would like to stand by our Minister in taking a decision in regard to centralisation but he should also represent local interests, that is, those people who are living nearabout these areas. They know where the shoe pinches. I hope, the hon. Minister will accept in spirit at least what we are submitting after our experience and accept the amendment.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : Sir, I have already explained the whole thing. What I want to stress here is that since the hon. Minister has not refuted or rejected the points I have raised, I think, he has almost accepted it. As far as the regional imbalance is concerned, we all know and we are fully aware that it is the monopoly growth that has resulted in this regional imbalance.

As far as this particular amendment is concerned, it is with regard to removing the regional imbalance. Then, automatically, it becomes an instrument for proper regional development specially in the field of agriculture and industry. From that

point of view, because it has not been refuted or rejected, I hope, it will be acceptable to the hon. Minister.

SHRI K. C. PANT : As regards the point made by Mr. Daga and Mr. Shastri is concerned, I do not see why they are pressing a point which will exclude them from the possibility of being included as members in the Board. There will be a possibility of including persons like them in the board and, subsequently, when the labour leaders establish themselves in this field, they can also be taken in the board. Why should they exclude themselves?

Mr. Naik wants the representation of local interests. What is local interest? Who will define what is local interest? Is it the local M.P. or is it the local district or is it the local State? Therefore, I think, it would be wrong to include such a flexible and ambiguous term in a law. Whatever local interests are involved will naturally be taken care of by whoever is in the board.

So far as the point raised by Shri Panda goes, I think, he will agree with me that the question of regional imbalances is not going to be affected too much by our including the words 'removal of regional imbalances' in this Bill. The important thing is that, as a part of our planning process, we have to remove the regional imbalances. Therefore, I cannot agree to include it in the Bill. But I would agree with him that it should be in the overall strategy of planning in the country. He and I can get together and try to remove regional imbalances wherever they are, but not by including it in the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is Mr. Daga pressing his amendment?

SHRI M. C. DAGA : No, Sir; I am not pressing. I seek leave of the House to withdraw it.

Amendment No. 3 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. B. V. Naik.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I am also not pressing; I seek leave of the House to withdraw it.

Amendment No. 36 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall I put all the other amendments together?

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I am not pressing Amendment No. 41.

Amendment No. 41 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendments Nos. 28 and 42 to the vote of the House.

Amendments 28 and 42 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is: "That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

Clause 9 and 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 11 (substitution of new sections for section 18.)

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: I beg to move:

Page 8 line 8,—

after "State" insert—

"and to adopt a flexible and differential consumption tariff so as to secure equitable benefits and incentives for lift-irrigation in drought-prone areas and for rural cottage industries". (18)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I beg to move:

Page 8, line 8,—

after "State" insert—

"and to adopt such a reasonable and differential consumption tariff so as to secure maximum benefits and incentives for lift irrigation in drought-prone areas, for poor and marginal farmers, poor people and small scale industries in town and cottage industries in the villages;" (29)

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA. I beg to move:

Page 8,—

after line 36, insert—

"18B. It shall be the duty of the Generating Company to make arrangements with the electricity distributing agencies in such a way that the electricity generated by the Generating Company is sold at a uniform rate throughout the country and that the village industries and farmers throughout the country are supplied electricity at cheaper rates than the other consumers." (38)

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: The Minister has already explained that, in the matter of tariff, it is not proper for us to interfere and fix the rates which the State Electricity Boards are more competent to do. But, in spite of that, I would request that my amendment, which reads as follows, be accepted:

"Page 8, line 8,—

after "State" insert

"and to adopt a flexible and differential consumption tariff so as to secure equitable benefits and incentives for lift-irrigation in drought-prone areas and for rural cottage industries."

[Shri P. Narasimha Reddy]

This amendment does not fix any rate; it only gives a hint, an indication, to the Electricity Boards to adopt such a flexible policy. In the circumstances, this amendment should be acceptable to the Minister.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : सभापति महोदय, मेरा एमेंडमेंट संख्या 29 श्री नरसिम्हा रेड्डी के एमेंडमेंट से लगभग मिलता-जुलता है, और उस के द्वारा ये शब्द जोड़ने के लिए कहा गया है

"and to adopt such a reasonable and differential consumption tariff so as to secure maximum benefits and incentives for lift-irrigation in drought-prone areas, for poor and marginal farmers, poor people and small scale industries in town and cottage industries in the villages;"

यह संशोधन रेट के बारे में है, जिस के संबंध में मंत्री महोदय ने बहस का जवाब देते हुए कहा कि हम अभी उस पर विचार नहीं कर रहे हैं, उस को बाद में देखेंगे।

तो मैं यहां यह बात कह देना आवश्यक समझता हूँ कि रेट एक तरह का नहीं होना चाहिए। अभी एक तरह का रेट है बल्कि अगर कोई फर्क है तो पूँजीपतियों के लिए फर्क है। मंत्री जी ने कहा कि हिंडालको को, बिरला को दो पैसे से बढ़ा कर 12 पैसे कर दिया लेकिन अगर आम जनता को कितना बढ़ाया उस का सिंहावलोकन करें तो मालूम हो जायगा कि 24 पैसे और 27 पैसे तक वह चला गया है। तो जो बेचारे गरीब हैं देहातों के अंदर जिन को धान पटाने के लिए पानी नहीं मिल रहा है, अभी मेरे पास कल चिट्ठी आई है हमारे क्षेत्र के और धनरूपा पतोड़ी अंचलों में पानी नहीं मिल रहा है। पहले बाढ़ में फसल

समाप्त हो गयी जो बच गई थी वह अब सूखे में जा रही है। उन को बिजली नहीं मिलती। और कई जगहों में ऐसा ही हाल है। उन को ज्यादा रेट देना पड़ता है। छोटे छोटे किसान हैं। बड़े किसानों से आप लीजिए मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है। लेकिन छोटे किसानों से भी वही रेट लें जो बड़े लोगों से लेते हैं यह ठीक नहीं है। शहरों में जो छोटे उद्योग धंधे चलाने वाले हैं उन से भी वही रेट और बिरला टाटा से भी वही जिनके पास बारह बारह और आठ आठ अरब की सम्पत्ति है, यह बात समझ में नहीं आती है। एक छोटी सी झोपड़ी वाला है जो अपनी झोपड़ी में एक बल्ब जलाता है उस से भी वही रेट और जो बड़े बड़े शीश महलों में रहते हैं उन से भी वही रेट। तो मेरा कहना यह है कि रेट में तफर्का होना चाहिए और जो गरीब तबके के लोग हैं जिन का जिक्र आप ने 20 सूची कार्यक्रम में किया है उन के लिए कोई सस्ता रेट बिजली का तय कीजिए। मेरे संशोधन का आशय यही है। मुझे विश्वास है कि मंत्री जी मेरी बात स्वीकार करेंगे।

श्री विजयसिन्हा : सभापति महोदय, मेरा एमेंडमेंट सादा सा है कि जो देश में बिजली तैयार हो सारे देश में यूनिफार्म रेट से उस का बटवारा होना चाहिए और उस बटवारे में किसानों को और गांवों की इंडस्ट्रीज को सस्ते से सस्ते दाम पर बिजली दी जाय। मैं समझता हूँ कि मंत्री जी इस को कबूल करेंगे कि गांवों में जब तक सस्ते दाम पर बिजली नहीं देंगे तब तक कूटी उद्योग नहीं चलेंगे। गांवों में सस्ते दामों पर बिजली नहीं देंगे तो किसानों को फायदा नहीं होगा। किसान अन्न नहीं पैदा करेंगे। इसलिए जो बिजली पैदा हो उसके बटवारे का एक तरीका ऐसा बना दिया जाय कि गांवों में

में कितनी जायगी। मेरा यह साधारण
सा प्रेममेंट है। मंत्री जी इस को
स्वीकार करें।

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, I would request Shri Reddy, Panditji and Shastriji to look at section 18(a), which reads:

"to arrange in coordination with the Generating Company or Generating Companies, if any, operating in the State, for the supply of electricity that may be required within the State and for the transmission and distribution of the same."

I would request the hon. Members to note the next words:

"...in the most efficient and economical manner with particular reference to those areas which are not for the time being supplied or adequately supplied with electricity".

That, I think, is justified and should be there in a Central Act, but things like what tariff should be there in each State and which section of the consumers should subsidise another set of consumers, we leave it to the States. We cannot possibly in a Central law lay down either uniformity in this matter or lay down principles which will be applicable to each State because of the different systems existing in the States. As I explained, this is the main difficulty.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : उस में दिक्कत यह है कि फार्मर को और विलेज इंडस्ट्री को जिस के लिए गांधी जी कहते थे बिजली नहीं मिल पाएगी। उस के लिए कोई डायरेक्शन दें या उपाय करें जिस से फार्मर को और विलेज इंडस्ट्री को बिजली आप दें। यह जो आप का है इस में फार्मर और विलेज इंडस्ट्रीज नहीं आती।

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am completely in sympathy with the desire to take power to the rural areas and I would like to see power reaching every

village. 180,000 villages are already serviced with power and I would like it to expand rapidly, and I am doing my best for that. The matter of rates is, however, different:

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: I seek the permission of the House to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment No. 38 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will now put amendments Nos. 18 and 29 of Shri Narasimha Reddy and Shri Ramavatar Shastri respectively to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos. 18 and 29 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 11 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 12 to 16 were added to the Bill.

Clause 17a—(Substitution of new sections for sections 28 and 29)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I beg to move:

Page 10, line 37,—

after 'papers' insert—

"such as Hindi, English, and other State languages of the regions which have wide circulation," (30)

सभापति जी, मेरा संशोधन पृष्ठ नं० १० पर है जोकि इस प्रकार से है :

"such as Hindi, English, and other State languages of the regions which have wide circulation,"

इसमें बाइड सर्कुलेशन लिखना भी जरूरी है और हर तरह की भाषा की चर्चा करना भी जरूरी है इसलिये कि अगर कोई कहीं विज्ञापन या और कुछ

[Shri Ramavatar Shastri]

देना चाहे तो इस तरह की तीन भाषाओं में देना चाहिये और जिसका सर्कुलेशन ज्यादा से ज्यादा हो उसको देना चाहिये। यह संशोधन मैंने इसलिए दिया है कि हमारे बिहार में घनबाद में इंडियन स्कूल आफ माइन्स है, उसका सम्बन्ध भी हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी से ही है, उन्होंने कई करांडे पया उसके विस्तार के लिए दिए हैं—वह अलग सबाल है जिसके लिए मैं अलग से बात करूंगा—लेकिन वहां पर एक दो लाख रुपया एडवर्टाइजमेंट के लिए रखा जाता है और चालीस, चालीस अखबारों के नाम उनके पास हैं। आल इंडिया नेचर के अखबार हा, अंग्रेजी, उर्दू, बंगला के हालांकि उर्दू का नाम नहीं था। बहरहाल जो भी अखबारों के नाम हैं उतने नाम नहीं होने चाहिए। साथ ही घनबाद में जो लोकल चार पांच अखबार निकलते हैं उनके भी नाम थे, उनको भी विज्ञापन दिया जा रहा है तो उससे क्या फायदा होने वाला है इंडियन स्कूल आफ माइन्स को और उन पेपर्स का क्या सर्कुलेशन है? कुछ भी नहीं, केवल एडवर्टाइजमेंट के नाम पर खाते पकाते हैं। चूंकि घनबाद के अखबार वाले डायरेक्टर के गुगगान करते हैं, उनकी तारीफ में लेख छापते हैं इसलिए उनको विज्ञापन मिल जाता है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि वाइडली सर्कुलेटेड न्यूज-पेपर्स का इस्तेमाल ही सरकार को करना चाहिए। अब समय आ गया है कि भारत सरकार अपने तमाम संस्थानों और प्रतिष्ठानों को कुछ समाचार-पत्रों की सूची, जोकि वाइडली सर्कुलेटेड हैं, तैयार करके दे दे ताकि उन्हीं को विज्ञापन दिये जायें। इसी उद्देश्य के लिए मैंने यह संशोधन दिया है।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : शास्त्री जी ने नीति का सवाल उठाया है, यह विषय

सूचना विभाग के विचाराधीन हो सकता है, सूचना विभाग को इस के बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा....

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : लेकिन आप ने इस में लिखा है।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : जरूर लिखा होगा, फिर भी यह नीति का प्रश्न है। जहां तक मेरा सम्बन्ध है, मैं तो यह समझता हूं कि यह प्रैसला बोर्ड को करना चाहिये।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will put amendment No. 30 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 30 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 17 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 17 was added to the Bill.

Clause 18—(Amendment of section 30)

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I beg to move:

Page 11, line 41,—

add at the end—

"on the basis of assessment made by the concerned State Governments" (44)

Page 11, line 45,—

add at the end—

"With particular object of making such power an instrument for regional development, namely agriculture and industry in backward areas" (45)

Page 11,—

after line 45, insert,—

“(h) in allotting priorities to different schemes, the authority shall give preference to such schemes which can be found economically viable and contribute relatively more to the national economy.” (46)

Taking the whole approach and the direction which we should follow, we have to go in for regional development of the country. Certain States are gifted by nature. Those natural resources should be fully made use of. They should be fully developed. They should be developed in such a way that they can make their maximum contribution to national power and national wealth. Therefore, I want that power should be generated and produced in such a way that it should be used as an instrument for regional development. Unless this approach is there, unless this finds a place in the Bill itself, things may be let to the sweet will, the whims and caprices of different bodies. There may be some occasions when there may be misuse of these things. Therefore, there must be a clear-cut direction in this regard. That is why I have brought in these amendments and I request the hon. Minister to accept these amendments.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, If Mr. Panda had carefully gone through the duties of the State Electricity Boards, he would have found this. We have said that the Boards, in coordination with the generating companies shall arrange for supply of electricity in a most efficient and economical manner with particular reference to those areas which are not being adequately supplied with electricity. We have said that this should be done in a most efficient and economical manner. That includes taking an overall look at the whole region. We are slowly moving from the State to the region in respect of power planning but yet we have still to take in-

to account that the States are full entities which count in these matters, and the point of view of the States will have to be taken into account.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now let me put amendments Nos. 44, 45 and 46 to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos. 44, 45 and 46 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That Clause 18 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 18 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is an amendment to Clause 19 by Mr. Daga. He is not here. There are no amendments to Clauses 20 to 28. So I will put clauses 19 to 28 to the vote of the House. The question is:

“That clauses 19 to 28 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 19 to 28 were added to the Bill.

Clause 29—(Amendment of section 74)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is an amendment by Shri Ramavatar Shastri

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I beg to move:

Page 14, lines 24 and 25,—

for “servant of the Board or of a Generating Company”
substitute—

“employee of the Board or of a Generating Company”
(19)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may speak on your amendment.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : सभापति जी, धारा 29 में मेरा संशोधन इस प्रकार है—पंक्ति 24 और 25 के बीच में—

"for the words 'servants of the Board' substitute the words 'employees of the Board'.

समाजवाद का नारा आपलगाते हैं और 'सरवेन्ट' शब्द इसमें में लिखते हैं इस का मतलब यह है कि अभी भी अंग्रेजों की स्प्रिट हमारे देश में कायम है और जो दास प्रथा थी, उस चीज को यह शब्द दर्शाता है। आजादी के इतने दिनों बाद भी हम किसी को 'सरवेन्ट' कहें, यह हमें शोभा नहीं देता है। आप यह देखें कि अपने घरों में भी जिन लोगों को हम रखते हैं, उन को घरेलू सरवेन्ट नहीं कहते हैं बल्कि अब उन को घरेलू सेवक कहते हैं। घर में तो हम उन को 'सेवक' कहते हैं लेकिन इस बिल में आप ने 'सरवेन्ट' रख दिया है। यह न समाजवाद से मेल खाता है और न जनतांत्रिक पद्धति से मेल खाता है और न ही देश की आजादी से मेल खाती है। इस से पहले भी एक विधेयक जो इस सदन में रखा गया था, उस में भी 'सरवेन्ट' शब्द रखा गया था और उस समय भी मैं ने इस 'सरवेन्ट' शब्द का विरोध किया था और उस समय मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि आयन्दा हम इस बात का ख्याल रखेंगे कि इस तरह का शब्द विधेयक में न हो। 'सरवेन्ट' शब्द को बदल कर क्या आप 'एम्पलाई' शब्द नहीं कर सकते हैं। 'एम्पलाई' शब्द रखने में कोई शंका नहीं है। मेरे ख्याल से आप को भी यह बुरा लगता होगा कि किसी को 'नोकर' कहें या 'सरवेन्ट' का है। इसलिए कम से कम इस छोटे से मेरे एमेंडमेंट को तो आप मान लीजिए और 'सरवेन्ट' के स्थान पर 'एम्पलाई' रख दीजिए।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : सभापति महोदय शास्त्री जी अगर थोड़ी सी तकलीफ करते, तो जहाँ जहाँ 'सरवेन्ट' शब्द आया है, वहाँ वहाँ के लिए "एम्पलाई" शब्द रखने का एमेंडमेंट देते। अगर वैसे ऐसा करते, तो शायद मैं इस के बारे में सोच सकता था। बहुत सी जगहों तो इन्होंने इस शब्द को एक्सेप्ट कर लिया है और सिर्फ एक क्लॉज में ही इस के बदलने के लिए एमेंडमेंट दिया है। इसलिए मैं इस को एक्सेप्ट नहीं करता।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 19 to vote.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मैं ने इस बिल को पढ़ा है। और कहीं यह शब्द नहीं है। आप टैकिंगेलिटीज का सवाल नहीं उठाइए। मेरे इस एमेंडमेंट को मानना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: When I am on my legs, you will please sit down. I shall put amendment No. 19 to Clause 29 moved by Shri Ramavatar Shastri to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 19 was put and negatived

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Clause 29 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That Clause 29 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 29 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now come to Clause 3. There is an amendment by Shri M. C. Daga. He is not here. I shall put Clause 30 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That Clause 30 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 30 was added to the Bill.

Clause 31—(Insertion of new section 75A.)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
Sir, I beg to move:

page 15, line 6—

For 'six' substitute "three". (20)

यह संशोधन पृष्ठ 15 पर है। इस में जेनरेटिंग कम्पनीज को हर साल साल खत्म होने पर रिपोर्ट और एकाउन्ट्स बरकरार देने की बात है जो सरकार को या संबंधित लोगों को वे देंगी। मेरा कहना यह है कि इस के लिए 6 महीने देने की क्या जरूरत है। 6 महीने तक आप उन को मौका देते हैं कि वे रिपोर्ट दे सकते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस समय को कम किया जाना चाहिए। क्या वे तीन महीने में उस रिपोर्ट को नहीं दे सकते हैं? इस में उन को क्या कठिनाई होगी? उन के यहां आफिसर्स और एम्पलाइज की कमी नहीं है क्योंकि आफिसर तो ज्यादा से ज्यादा अफसर बहाल किये जा रहे हैं।

एम्पलाइज कम हो रहे हैं। छः महीने का समय बहुत ज्यादा है। इसको कम किया जाए और इसको तीन महीने कर दिया जाए। तीन महीने में इन को जो रिपोर्ट देनी हो दे देनी चाहिये। इसलिए मैंने छः महीने के स्थान पर तीन महीने कहा है।

को कुछ बंद रखें। कम्पनी ला में भी कम्पनियों को छः महीने का समय

मिलता है, प्रॉफिट एंड लास एकाउंट होता है, उसके बाद ब्रांटिडर्ज की रिपोर्ट है, एनुअल रिपोर्ट है, ये सब चीजें तैयार करनी पड़ती हैं। अगर सभी कम्पनियों को छः महीने मिलते हैं तो आप इनके लिए तीन महीने क्यों करना चाहते हैं। बाकी सब के लिए जिस दिन कम कर देंगे इस में भी हम कर देंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will put amendment No. 20 moved by Shri Ramavatar Shastri to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 20 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 31 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 31 was added to the Bill.

Clause 32 to 34 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up next item on the agenda, which stand in the name of Shri H. R. Gokhale.