

[Shri Banamali Patnaik]

am surprised to find that people from various parts of the country are yet to be recruited in the army. We are really proud of the fact that Punjab and Haryana have contributed to our defence forces. When we go to these places we are proud to hear about the sacrifices made by these people. The prosperity of Punjab and Haryana is not because of small scale industries or agriculture but because of a large number of defence personnel working in that part of the area. A major part of the contribution of army pension goes to this area amounting to about Rs 250 crores a year. Therefore, we have to think in terms of recruitment to the army from different parts of the country. It has now become a question of vested interest. They are not recruiting a major part of the personnel from Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Tamil Nadu. From here only a few are recruited. I had been to various parts of Mysore and in many villages, they do not even know about this recruitment. So, unless we change the recruitment policy, a large number of personnel will not come forward. I wish that all parts of the country should have the responsibility as Punjab or Haryana for defending the country. There was a demand for constituting an Orissa Regiment after the Chinese war. The Orissa Government passed a resolution, but it is still pending with the Defence Ministry. We must create a feeling that all parts of the country are prepared to make sacrifices for the defence of the country.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can continue tomorrow

17 hrs.

#### DISCUSSION RE: BREAK-DOWN OF POWER SUPPLY IN DELHI

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up the discussion under

Rule 193 on the statement of the Minister of Irrigation and Power earlier in the day. Under the rules, only 1 hour can be allotted for this kind of discussion. I would request the hon. members to keep that in mind and cooperate.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Allpore): Sir, I take it that the purpose of this short discussion is to find out if the minister can throw any light on this mystery of the great black-out which took place in Delhi yesterday, which I am told is going to continue today. We are sitting in Parliament House all day, but rumours are coming from outside that this evening and tonight the situation is likely to be much worse than yesterday. I say it for two reasons: I am told—I did not hear it myself—yesterday at about 4 or 4.30 PM before the collapse took place, the minister had assured the people that there was no danger of any power break-down in Delhi. Today in his statement this morning he has said:

"It is hoped to recommission one or two more machines by this evening, so that the full requirements of the city can be met."

We hear that the situation might be worse this evening and tonight. I hope he will throw some light on the latest position and what we are supposed to expect when we go out. Because of the separate generator available in Parliament House, we are enjoying the blessings of light and cold breeze. But we know what is happening outside. It seems that areas in Delhi have been demarcated into VIP areas and non-VIP areas, by whom I do not know. It is reported in the newspapers that the Prime Minister's House, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Ministers' houses and of course, Parliament House and such other places are considered as VIP areas where special arrangements are made so that no dislocation takes place. But the areas of responsibility and

control have yet to be demarcated and defined. Areas of responsibility and control between the Minister, the bureaucrats and the technocrats have not yet been defined or demarcated. Everybody is trying to pass on the buck to somebody else. Already three theories have been put forth about yesterday's happening. One is that it is sabotage; the second is that there was boiler trouble; the third is that there was a defect in the water cooling system. There is a fourth one also. According to the General Manager of Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking, it is a "transient tripping fault"; I am a layman and I do not know what it means.

The facts remains that all five units of the Indraprastha Power station broke down simultaneously. I think even Dr. Rao will admit that it is quite an unusual happening. There are units of power stations throughout the country and one unit or another breaks down temporarily. It is happening every day practically now somewhere or other. But I think Delhi has taken the record that both at Rajghat Power Station and at Indraprastha Power Station all the units broke down simultaneously at about 5.20 or 5.30 p.m. yesterday. So, we should know what is the reason behind this.

I do not want too well on the sufferings that people outside had to undergo. Water supply, of course, is the most acute thing at this time of the year. Hospitals have been affected and emergency operations have been dislocated in the middle. We are told that areas of South Delhi can be expected to face a more or less prolonged water famine now. Irrespective of whether lights come back or not, water famine of South Delhi is going to be more or less a permanent feature for some time to come.

Since the time is limited, I want to ask some questions. There is a report in all the papers about this long-

drawn out conflict or difference of opinion between the engineers and the General Manager of DESU. It is alleged—I do not whether it is true or not; I want to know that from him—it is alleged that the General Manager has been utilising the Class 3 and Class 4 staff in order to provoke the engineers and to create conflict between them. The President of the Engineers' Association, Shri H. C. Chopra is reported to have been gheraoed yesterday at about 4.30 p.m. and man-handled. We are told that the engineers have been aggrieved not now but for some time past at what they consider to be the vindictive behaviour of the General Manager towards them and they have been demanding his removal. A few days ago the Minister was reported to have said that he hoped the engineers would not resort to any direct action or strike because their demands were under consideration.

I want to know what is the total position regarding their demands. We are told that the implementation of the Shivsankar Committee recommendations now lies with the Delhi Municipal Corporation. What is being done to prod the Delhi Municipal Corporation to take an expeditious decision in the matter? I read in the papers that the delay is due to the fact that Hindi and Urdu translations of the recommendations of the Shivsankar Committee are not yet available and, therefore, the Delhi Municipal Corporation could not take a decision. They are fiddling while Delhi is burning. One of their main demands seems to be the appointment of a technically qualified man as General Manager. A second demand is parity between IAS officers and engineers in the senior posts and the third is revision of their pay scales.

I want to know whether any serious negotiations, discussions have been going on and what is the position now. When can they expect to have their grievances remedied?

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

According to a report, Dr. K. L. Rao is reported to have told them that further discussion on their demands will not be held until there is restoration of normal power supply. Is that the position? Are we, then, in for a longer-drawn trial of strength? Are we going to witness a long-drawn trial of strength between the authorities on the one side and engineers on the other when lakhs of people in Delhi suffer?

I would say that this tendency to blame the engineers and workers always very easily for sabotage should not be overdone. It should not be indulged in this fashion irresponsibly. These are a few thousand workers, about 10,000, belonging to various State Electricity Boards—probably by now they must have met the Minister also because they were demonstrating outside—they have come with genuine grievances and demands. They cannot be dismissed as saboteurs.

I am afraid, this country is not going to get out of this power crisis. It is getting worse from day to day. This is a matter which requires a much deeper thinking, a much deeper examination. After all, Delhi's ordeal yesterday was only a culmination of what is going on around Delhi is gheraoed by power crisis, gherao in Haryana, gherao in Punjab, gherao in Rajasthan, gherao in U.P. and, finally, yesterday, the whole thing came and crashed on Delhi. If all this is due to sabotage, then, I am afraid, this is an explanation which the people of this country are not likely to be very much convinced by.

Further, I feel, on one side in Gujarat and on the other side in West Bengal, the same thing is going on for months together. All industries are paralysed affecting thousands of workers. Thousands of wor-

kers are being laid off. Production is absolutely crippled. We have been discussing this many times here. So, the Delhi incident, in my opinion, should not be seen in isolation for what is happening all over the country which is a major national crisis.

The Fifth Plan is being ushered in amidst a paralysing power famine. After four Plans, we have arrived at the threshold of the Fifth Plan-faced with a crippling power famine which will absolutely, completely, negate all the Plans that have been made for stepping up production and developing industries, and so on. Is it not a major tragedy? Was it visualised even one or two years ago? We were having little troubles. Can Dr. K. L. Rao who is himself a technocrat and has been sitting in the chair for the last 10 years put his hand on his heart and say, if even one or two years ago, he had visualised that suddenly, almost before our very eyes, there would be such a rapid deterioration all over the country? Today, you can hardly open papers without reading about this vast power famine which is stalking the country from end to end.

How has it happened? It is not due to bad planning basically? It is not due to the fact that this Ministry has failed hopelessly and other authorities have failed. You have got thermal stations which complain of not having better quality of coal; you have hydro-electric stations which complain of being without water and you talk of imported equipment which is without spares. Maintenance cannot be properly kept up. This does not happen in one day. It is a culmination of something happening over the years.

Engineers and technicians, I suppose, in a professional sense, are the colleagues of the hon. Minister. Everywhere, engineers and technicians complain that they have been subordinated to the bureaucrats in this field. The workers are demonstrating everywhere. They also do not get satisfaction for the very vital

work they are doing. Their pay-scales are not revised in time. They are not given any right of participation in the management of these concerns. So, what I wish to say is that this whole thing should not be seen in isolation but as a part of the chain which has been developing over the years. Personally, Dr K. L. Rao is a good man and I hold him in high esteem. But if after his holding of the office for the last 10 years, this is the result that we have seen this kind of major crisis and break-down on all sides, I would suggest to him that it is better he relinquishes his post. Give up this post. What is the harm in handing it over to somebody else? Let them see if they can make a better job of it. Why should he cling to the post when he is suffering from all the criticisms for this? Either he must be able to show a way-out and rectify these things, or, otherwise, tear up the Fifth Plan and throw it into the waste paper basket. The one factor of power crisis will reduce the Fifth Plan to nothing but a waste paper to be thrown into a waste paper basket.

Finally—this is what he has said here—I want to know whether these machines have been re-commissioned so that by this evening the full requirements of the city could be met. Secondly, he has said that a committee of technical experts will be set up to suggest concrete measures to be taken to avoid recurrence of complete break-down of all the machines whenever a fault occurs in the system. This sentence seems to imply that he is apprehending that there may be break-downs again. But some precautions should be taken to see that all the machines do not break down at the same time. Let them break down by turns, one by one. What exactly is the position? Why does he not frankly confess the gravity and the extent of the crisis and take the House into confidence? Tell us what exactly is the position, and what is proposed to be done? The responsibility must be fixed this time. This time the House and the

people of this country are not going to allow the people to get away without any responsibility, scot-free. This has now assumed a dimension which has become intolerable throughout the country. Therefore, I would request him, on behalf of the Government, to give us an assurance that responsibilities will be fixed and against the people who are responsible, no matter who they are including himself, action would be taken and the country will be put on the right rails regarding power generation, power distribution and commissioning of new stations, so that the position in the future can at least be stabilised, if not improved.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** (Howrah). I fully agree with what my hon. friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta, has said here. I want to know the real factors behind the breakdown. From the paper it appears that the General Manager and the Workers' Union—the Congress Union—have been used against the Engineers Association. In *Statesman* it has come that the engineers have warned in their memorandum that the steps the General Manager is taking are bound to lead to break-down of these units. Whether there is any truth in that warning, we want to know. The concern of the people in this breakdown must be taken into consideration. It is not an isolated thing. It is a very serious thing. The breakdown of these units in Indraprastha has also affected Haryana and Faridabad. It has become a national crisis. This crisis is spreading throughout the country. In today's paper we find that this controversy between the engineers and the bureaucrats is also not specific in Delhi. Already the engineers are on strike in U.P. And the Pay Commission's recommendations also have focussed the same conflict which is being discussed throughout the country. Whether these non-technical factors are the factors responsible, must also be taken into consideration seriously. Otherwise, there is no likelihood of a solution of this crisis within a very short period.



[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

Here in the statement it is said that it is hoped to re-commission one or two more machines by this evening. But if the report which Mr Indrajit Gupta has given just now that outside the rumour is that the situation will be worse than what it was last night is correct then this hope has already been belied. So, you have to give a serious thought to this. If the reason behind this breakdown is failure of proper maintenance of these units, that also should be probed into and proper steps should be taken.

I want to be enlightened what are the technical or non-technical factors, be cause in the *Times of India* the headline is sabotage. Whether it is a sabotage or not, we want to know. If it is sabotage it has to be solved in another manner and whether that is within the scope of the Minister of Power and Irrigation is to be considered. If there is the backing of the Congress Union behind the General Manager and the conflict between the engineers and the General Manager is real and if behind this breakdown that factor plays a role, then the solution should be found out through other machineries and that should not be delayed because the question of engineers as well as other bureaucrats requires solution on a national scale and that is not the question of Delhi alone.

Regarding the bureaucratic attitude in all these matters I wish to draw your attention to this point. Already thousands and thousands of them have come for demonstrations and daily hundreds and hundreds are being arrested. The attitude of the Haryana State Electricity Board authorities and the attitude of the Haryana Government are quite unhelpful in this matter for a lasting solution of this problem of power crisis. Government at the Centre must prevail upon them to change this attitude of theirs and to come to certain agreement with the workers' unions, to fulfil their de-

mands because this is the only just solution to this problem which we face today.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Although the happenings in Delhi have come in the wake of happenings all over the country and the tendency is to enlarge the scope of the discussion, as I have already pointed out, we have got very limited time and if the hon. Members will cooperate and confine themselves to Delhi, we will be able to complete this discussion within the time limit.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE Delhi happening is not an isolated thing.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER All the same the discussion now is specifically for that. It is all a question of time. If you want to discuss the happenings all over the country, there should be a separate motion for that. Now I would request all hon. Members, to co-operate. If hon. Members confine themselves to Delhi only we will be able to conclude this discussion within the time-limit. We have got very limited time at our disposal. So kindly cooperate.

Now Shri J Matha Gowder

\*SHRI J MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a power failure yesterday in Delhi the impact of which I experienced on my return to my residence from Parliament House. Falling from a hill station Ootacamund Nilgiris I was really a fish on a frying pan.

The power failure in Delhi might be due to the break down of all the machinery at the same time. But I would like to refer in brief to certain other facts also. There was a time when the Chairman of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking was complacent enough to say that Delhi would continue to get power from Bhakara though at that time there was fall in production of electricity there. The Punjab Electricity Board requested the Central Government to introduce 40 per cent power cut in Delhi and

\*The original speech was delivered in Tamil

supply power to Punjab. This happened in August 1972. In October 1972 the supply from Bhakra was stopped. Besides that, every day one lakh units of power produced from generators here were supplied to Punjab.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** This happened not because Delhi supplied power to Punjab, but because of the failure of some machines. Why do you bring in all these things here? You cannot bring in the question of supply of power to Punjab.

**SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER:** Sir, I am referring to this because when Delhi is in the grip of crisis which State has come to Delhi's rescue?

Sir, I would like to point out here that the break down of the machinery is due to the defective machinery either imported or indigenously manufactured in India by the public sector undertakings under the charge of Ministry of Industrial Development.

In fact for the failure of power supply in Delhi yesterday if the machinery had been responsible and if they had been obtained indigenously, the blame certainly would rest on the Ministry of Industrial Development.

Dr. Rao in a recent meeting had clearly stated that indigenously manufactured machinery by the Public Sector units under the charge of Industrial Development Ministry was poor in quality and was also not delivered on time which consequently delayed the commissioning of power plants. Perhaps, piqued by the Public statement of his colleague, the Minister of Industrial Development wanted to put the blame on the State Government and the State Electricity Boards for the Power crisis prevailing in the country.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Mr. Gowder nobody blamed the State

Electricity Board for the power failure in Delhi. Let us confine ourselves to the power failure in Delhi.

**SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER:** I only say that the sudden break down is due to defective machinery either indigenously supplied or imported. The power failure in Delhi is only a symptom indicative of the wider malady existing through out the country. I would like to know what effective steps have been taken by the Irrigation and Power Ministry to ensure supply of quality machinery for the production of electricity.

With these words I conclude.

श्री एस० रामगोपाल रेड्डी (निजा-  
माबाद) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय अभी मैंने श्री  
इन्द्रजीत गुप्त का भाषण सुना। उन्होंने  
नजरीज पेज की है कि १० वें एम० राव  
के इंजीनियरों देने में सब कुछ ठीक हो  
जाएगा वह एक स्टेप आगे  
जाकर यह भी कह सकते हैं कि  
फ्यूरेडियन प्रती अहमद के इंजीनियरों देने से  
फैल शांति खत्म हो जायेगी, फिर एक और  
स्टेप आगे जाकर यह कह सकते हैं कि वेल्वे  
मिनिस्टर के इंजीनियरों देने में नाए स्टेशन  
मास्टर ड्यूटी पर आ जायेगे, अगर इस तरह  
से आपाजीजन रिमाण्ड रखता जाये तो काम  
नहीं चलेगा। दिल्ली में पावर फेल्योर हुई  
है, उस का कारण क्या है—अगर यह देखा  
जाये तब तो ठीक है, नेमा पोलिटिकल मो-  
टव के आधार पर आप मिनिस्टर को  
मेन्बर करना चाहते हैं तो उसके लिए दूसरा  
तरीका है। 193 के अन्दर यह चीज नहीं  
आती है।

इसके लिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे  
पास एक टेक्नीकल आपसी मिनिस्टर है,  
वह भी लोगों में देखा नहीं जा रहा है,  
क्योंकि वह इतने अच्छे मिनिस्टर हैं, अगर  
वह नही होते तो हर पांच साल में हमारी  
इन्फ्रामिटी दोगी नहीं होती—इस बात को  
वह लोग भूल गए हैं। इसके पीछे डा० राव

[श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी] नही है। दाली में कोई तबादल हो गया है, कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी या और किसी पार्टी का काम है

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER We are confining ourselves to the discussion to find out the causes that were responsible for the power failure in Delhi. As I said some time ago we should not enlarge the scope of the discussion. Now, you are doing much worse in that you are unnecessarily bringing controversy. How do you know who is responsible or who is not responsible?

SHRI S M BANERJEE (Kanpur) The worker is never responsible for sabotage. It is this government which is in power for the last 25 years which is responsible (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER You have protested. That has gone on record.

I have already mentioned that that statement has aroused needless controversy here.

श्री एम० गोपाल रेड्डी यहाँ दिल्ली में जितनी बिजली होती है वह मौजूद है। बदकिस्मती की बात है कि बिजली के मुहकमे में जो काम करने वाले कर्मचारी हैं वह मुसीबत पैदा करके यहाँ के लोगों को सताना चाहते हैं। इंजीनियर्स और टैक्नीशियन्स इस बिजली विभाग में कितने हैं? मैं समझता हूँ कि दिल्ली की जितनी आबादी है उसके हिसाब से वह प्वाइन्ट जीरो जीरो जीरो जीरो तक परसेन्ट भी नहीं है लेकिन वह दिल्ली के चालीस लाख लोगों को सता रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ कि उनको कड़ी से कड़ी सजा देनी चाहिए। अगर थोड़े दिनों के लिए हमें कुछ तकलीफ भी उठानी पड़े तो उसके लिए भी हम तैयार हैं। साथ ही उसको मिलिट्री को हूड भोवर करना चाहिए, यहाँ के पावर स्टेशन को तभी वहाँ की हालत दुस्त हो सकती है।

Government should not show any mercy to them. They must simply dismiss them and the whole thing should be handed over to the military.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय (मुरैना) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, राजस्थान और हरियाणा के बाद दिल्ली में भी बिजली का मकट हो गया है। यदि मैं कहूँ कि सारे देश में वह सकट बढ़ने वाला है तो अतिशयोक्ति नहीं होगी। बिजली बन्द होने के कारण पानी, टेलीफोन तथा अन्य बातों में जनता को काफी परेशानी भोगनी पड़ी है। बहादुरशाह जफर मार्ग, चादनी चौक, अजमेरी गेट, कनाट प्लेस तथा अन्य मुख्य स्थानों पर बिजली बन्द रही। प्रेस भी बन्द रहे है। प्रश्न यह पैदा होता है कि आखिर वह कठिनाई क्यों हुई? इसका क्या कारण है। वर्कर्स ने यहाँ जो श्री चापडा चीफ इंजीनियर है, उनका घेराव किया। श्री चापडा के बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी काफी अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि वह कितने कायकुशल है और अपने काम में कितने होशियार हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी इंजीनियर्स को काफी सपोर्ट करते हैं लेकिन जो आई ए एस आफिसर हैं उनको गृह मंत्रालय सपोर्ट करता है। आपस में जो तालमेल नहीं है वह इस मूल शगडें का कारण है। जिन्हें उस क्षत्र के बारे में कोई ज्ञान नहीं है उनको वहाँ पर जनरल मैनेजर बनाकर रखा गया है। कर्मचारियों ने जब चीफ इंजीनियर का घेराव किया तो चीफ इंजीनियर, श्री चापडा ने जनरल मैनेजर को फोन किया लेकिन वह उनकी सहायता के लिए नहीं आये। जो कांग्रेस पार्टी के चैयरमैन हैं उन्होंने भी कहा कि इस सारी घटना का अगर कोई दोषी है तो वह जनरल मैनेजर हैं। उन्होंने श्री कैरियपा को दोषी ठहराया है। मेरा कहना है कि जब उनको दोषी ठहराया जाता है और वह एक नान-टेक्निकल हैं और जब यह बार बार मांग की जा रही है अनेकों दिनों से कि उनको हटाया जाय तो फिर आप उनको क्यों नहीं हटाते हैं

आपके सामने आखिर कौन सी दिक्कत है ? शायद गृह मंत्रालय का प्रेशर आप पर ज्यादा पड़ गया इसलिए आप चुप हो गए और कोई कार्यवाही नहीं करते हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, दिल्ली में 270 मैगावाट बिजली की खपत है जिसमें से 80 मैगावाट आप भाखड़ा से लेते हैं और 40 मैगावाट का स्वयं निर्माण करते हैं लेकिन 150 मैगावाट की जो कमी रहती है उसको आप कहा से पूरा करेंगे ? इसका जबाब मंत्री महोदय दें कि यह जो कमी है इसको कैसे पूरा करेंगे ?

इसके साथ साथ जो जनरल मैनेजर है उनका विवाद काफी दिनों से चल रहा है। उसके बारे में नाना प्रकार की समस्यायें हैं। उसके सम्बन्ध में शिव शंकर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आर्ट है लेकिन आज तक उस पर विचार नहीं किया गया है। रिपोर्ट आपके सामने पहा हुई है लेकिन आपने आज तक कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है, विचार तक नहीं किया है। जब आप उस पर विचार नहीं करते हैं तो फिर उस कमेटी को बनाया ही क्यों था ? उस कमेटी पर बाकी पैसा खर्च किया गया है। मेरी समस्या में नहीं आता कि कौन सा ऐसा दबाव है जिसके कारण से सरकार ने उस रिपोर्ट पर विचार नहीं किया है। आज जनरल मैनेजर के बारे में बहुत सी बातें कही जाती हैं। यहाँ पर जो बिजली का अकाल हुआ उसके कारण कारपोरेशन को 7 लाख में लेकर 10 लाख का नुकसान 24 घंटे में हुआ है। उसको कौन पूरा करेगा ? यदि कहा जाय तो उसके दोषी आप ही हैं, जनरल मैनेजर हैं। वहाँ पर कांग्रेस की युनियन है, उसकी पूरी रिपोर्ट है, उनके इशारे पर मारे काम करते हैं, जैसा वह बताते हैं वैसा करते हैं। मेरा निवेदन है इस बारे में ठीक तरह से काम करें और सारी जबाबदारी जनरल मैनेजर की होनी चाहिए।

चीफ इंजीनियर का जो बराब हुआ उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। उन सारी बातों के लिए प्रधान मंत्री को एक शापन दिया गया और आपको भी दिया गया है 16 तारीख को लेकिन उसके बाद आज 25 तारीख हो गई अब तक उसके बारे में कौन सा विचार किया गया है ? आपने कल भी कहा और आज भी कहा कि मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ हड़ताल न की जाये, हड़ताल पर लोग न जाएँ लेकिन उसके साथ साथ आप धौम भी देते हैं कि हड़ताल पर जो लोग जायेंगे उसके खिलाफ सख्त कार्यवाही की जायेगी। वह लोग आपको शापन दे उस पर कोई कार्यवाही न करे यह कैसी दुर्भाग्य की बात है। आपको चाहिए कि उनकी बात को सुनें, उस पर गम्भीरता से विचार करके निर्णय लें लेकिन उसके खिलाफ आप सोये पड़े रहते हैं। यह सरकार विल्कुल बहरी और अधी है, न देखती है और न सुनती है। और जब लोग अपने जायज हथियार हड़ताल का प्रयोग करना चाहते हैं तो आप धौम देते हैं कि उनके खिलाफ कड़ी कार्यवाही की जायेगी। आज दिल्ली में 5 हजार लोग रामलीला मैदान में पड़े हैं, रोज सत्याग्रह हो रहा है, तीन सौ लोग रोज बन्द हो रहे हैं। क्या आप चाहते हैं मारे देश में यह आग फैल जाये ? हरयाणा के बारे में आपने कौन सा निर्णय लिया है ? अनेक बार कहा गया है लेकिन आप कुछ करना ही नहीं चाहते हैं। वहाँ पर आग क्यों फैली है ? इसलिए कि मुख्य मंत्री उनकी बात सुनते नहीं हैं। दिल्ली में केन्द्रीय सरकार उनको पकड़ती है और हरयाणा पुलिस के सुपूर्द कर देती है जहाँ पर उनके साथ नाना प्रकार की ज्यादतियाँ की जाती हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ प्रधान मंत्री को जो शापन दिया गया है उसके सम्बन्ध में आप क्या करना चाहते हैं। आप उस पर जल्दी से निर्णय लें। और जो आपके पास कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पड़ी हुई है उसके बारे में आपका क्या मत है उस पर भी स्पष्ट विचार

[श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय]

करके सदन को विश्वास में लें और बतायें कि क्या करने जा रहे हैं। जो आपन दिया गया है उसके बारे में आपका क्या मत है वह बतायें।

कुछ लोगो ने यहाँ पर कहा है कि मंत्री जी अपना त्याग-पत्र दे दें लेकिन मैं उससे सहमत नहीं हूँ। लेकिन मंत्री जी ने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है कि चार मशीन एकदम बन्द हो गईं क्या आज तक कभी ऐसा हुआ है? कभी नहीं हुआ। मंत्री जी भी कुछ शलत बयानी करने की आदत डाल रहे हैं। मैं उनको चेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि सदन को और देश को गुमराह न करे गलत-बयानी करके। जो वास्तविक बात है, इत्तिनियम के साथ जो भेदभाव किया जा रहा है उनकी समस्याओं पर कोई विचार नहीं किया जा रहा है।

आपने सामने मैंने कल इस दन में कहा था कि यदि आपन उनकी समस्याओं पर विचार नहीं किया यदि उनकी मांगों को नहीं मूना गया तो दिल्ली में शाम में ही बिजली बन्द होगी। मैंने बल कहा था और कल शाम को ही बिजली बन्द हो गई। यदि अब भी आप ठीक तरह से विचार नहीं करेंगे तो मैं आपको चेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली में पूर्ण बिजली बन्द होगी और उसके साथ सारे देश में यह आग भड़केगी जिससे सारे देश की हानि होगी। इसकी सारी जवाबदारी आप पर ही होगी। इसके साथ साथ यदि आपने कर्मचारियों पर कोई कड़ा ऐक्शन लिया तो उसका परिणाम भी आपको भुगतना पड़ेगा। धन्यावाद।

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): I shall confine myself to the problem we are facing today in Delhi. This sudden breakdown of power yesterday evening which is continuing today is really a matter of serious concern to all of us if the hon.

Minister could throw some light on the queries I am putting before him, we will be enlightened.

First, since all the five generators broke down simultaneously, should we not know from the hon. Minister whether the maintenance of these power houses was very poor? It is common knowledge to all of us that the maintenance of the power houses in Delhi was very poor for the last so many years. If so, was the hon. Minister or Government aware of this? If so, I want to know whether the Government took any note of it or took any action to see that really these power stations do not suffer on account of the long years of poor maintenance.

There was a proposal to have a power house at Badarpur. This was pending long since. What has happened to it? Why this power house could not come up? What were the difficulties, knowing fully well that in Delhi there is power shortage and that whatever power is being produced in Delhi is not really able to meet the demands? Why is it that that project could not come up? What is the reason for this?

Thirdly, I want to know whether actually there is any conflict between the engineers, the technocrats and the administrators, whether it came to the knowledge of the Government or even the administrative authority. I am told it is becoming a kind of controversy between the technocrats and the administrative wing of the Electricity Supply Undertaking in almost all the States; it is not only in Delhi but in different parts of the country as well. Why should not the Government try to see that something is done to evolve a kind of formula so that this controversy is ended and the people of the country not made to suffer because of this controversy? This controversy between the technocrats and the administrative is as though bet-

ween two thieves; both are thieves. Either the technocrats are responsible for this breakdown or the others. I hope the culprits are to be found between these two, and the responsibility should be fixed. But the country and the people of Delhi cannot be made to suffer, and the Government of India should also see that these people are not allowed to do this kind of mischief.

Fourthly, the Sivasankar Committee had made certain recommendations in regard to the workers of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking. What happened to those recommendations of the Sivasankar Committee? Why could they not be implemented? Did it come to the notice of the Government that they are not being implemented? Did the employees represent to the Government about the implementation of those recommendation?

These are the four or five essential points which the hon. Minister should enlightened upon in this House so that at least we can be benefited and by this evening the problem will be solved and we get light and water and Delhi would not be in darkness any more. If the people who are concerned with this have created this kind of situation in Delhi, at least the people of Delhi in future should not suffer and they should know that pressure will be exercised over the authorities and the problem will be solved. Finally, we should not suffer on this account any further.

I hope on these points the hon. Minister will enlighten this House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Madu Limaye.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: (Begusarai): I have also given my name.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I did not get your name. I will call you, but I did not see your name. Now, Mr. Madhu Limaye.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, दिल्ली के बिजली उत्पादन केन्द्र के सात यूनितो का एक-साथ बन्द होना एक बहुत गम्भीर घटना है। इस वक्त देश में जो बिजली का बड़ा संकट आया है, यह उसी का एक दुष्परिणाम मात्र है।

बिजली के बारे में शुरू से ही सरकार की कोई दीर्घकालीन नीति नहीं रही है। इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि हर दस साल के बाद बिजली का संकट बड़े पैमाने पर पैदा होता है। इसी सरकार की चौथी पंच-वर्षीय योजना में कहा गया कि दूसरी और तीसरी योजना में उत्पादन के जो लक्ष्य बनाये गये थे, वे पूरे नहीं हुए, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप 1961-62 में बड़ा संकट उत्पन्न हुआ और जगह जगह पर बिजली में कटौती करनी पड़ी और उत्पादन पर उसका बुरा असर पड़ा। मगर इसके साथ साथ इसमें यह आशा व्यक्त की गई थी कि चतुर्थ-पंच वर्षीय योजना में शुरू हो रही है और बिजली के बारे में स्थिति बहुत आशाजनक है। लेकिन स्वयं प्लानिंग कमिशन ने यह बात स्वीकार की है कि जो लगभग 41 लाख किलोवाट का उत्पादन का लक्ष्य बनाया गया था, इस योजना के पहले तीन वर्षों में उसमें पच्चीस प्रतिशत की कमी हुई है।

शुरू में तीन प्रकार की बिजली उत्पादन केन्द्र बनाये गये : जल विद्युत केन्द्र, कोयले का केन्द्र, और अणु शक्ति केन्द्र। मगर सरकार की एक भी परियोजना ऐसी नहीं है, जिस के बनावट के लक्ष्य में, डिजायन में,

[श्री भधु लिमये]

दोष न हों, जिसमें रूढ़ी मशीनरी न लगाई गई हो और जिसकी संचालन व्यवस्था में दोष न हो। जल विद्युत केन्द्रों द्वारा बिजली के उत्पादन के सम्बन्ध में इस सरकार के जो भी अनुभाग रहे हैं, वे सब गलत साबित हुए हैं। इसका कारण केवल यह नहीं है कि इस साल वर्षा फेल हो गई है, बल्कि हर साल ऐसा हो रहा है।

पत्ता, बिहार के बारे में मैं जानता हूँ कि जो बनावट का नक्शा, डिजाइन था, वह अच्छी किस्म के कोयले के लिए नहीं था।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Patratu is in Bihar. Why not come to Delhi?

श्री भधु लिमये : क्या दिल्ली कोई अलग चीज है? वह राजधानी है और यह कितने शर्म की बात है कि राजधानी में, जहाँ सी में अधिक दृढ़ता है, बिजली बार बार फल हो रही है। यह आज की घटना नहीं है। पिछले आठ साल से लगातार हम यही देखते चले आ रहे हैं। दिल्ली की बात कोई अलग और अनोखी नहीं है। जो समूचे देश में हो रहा है, वही दिल्ली में देखने को मिल रहा है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What I am saying is that if there is to be a discussion about power failure all over the country, it should be on a separate motion. I am not saying that is unreasonable. But, this is a limited discussion confined only to Delhi.

श्री भधु लिमये : हम बुनयादी बीमारियों पर विचार क्यों न करें—हम इस समस्या की जड़ में क्यों न जायें? मैं कम समय में ही खत्म कर दूंगा। उदाहरण के लिए दिल्ली से भाखरा का सम्बन्ध है। भाखरा से हम लोगों को बिजली सप्लाई होती है। तो फिर हम भाखरा पर चर्चा करें या नहीं? डा० राव

सिन्हाई मंत्री भी हैं। वह बतावें कि भाखरा जलाशय की सिल्टिंग के बारे में उन के जो अनुमान थे, क्या वे गलत साबित हुए हैं या नहीं। पत्ता, जो केन्द्र जिसे रूढ़ी कोयले के लिए बनाया गया, उस तरह का कोयला नहीं मिल रहा है, जिसके कारण दिक्कतें पैदा हो रही हैं।

इसी तरह अणुशक्ति का प्राथमिक प्रयोग देखिए। तारापुर में गड़बड़ी है और राजस्थान में भी गड़बड़ी है। मंत्री महोदय बतावें कि यह मरकार कोन सा विद्युत केन्द्र अच्छे ढंग से चलाती है, न वरु जल विद्युत केन्द्र ठीक तरह से चलानी है, न ही कोयले का केन्द्र और न ही अणु शक्ति का केन्द्र।

दो साल पहले, 1971 में, बम्बई में एक नाग लगा था "इन्दिरा गांधी आई है, नई राशनी लाई है"। क्या ये लोग सोचते हैं कि दिल्ली के विद्युत केन्द्र में इन्दिरा गांधी की तस्वीर लटका दी जायेगी और विद्युत केन्द्र चालू हो जायेगा—इन्दिरा गांधी जायेगी?

मंत्री महोदय तत्काल तो मेरी बात का जवाब नहीं दे सकेगे, लेकिन मैं उनसे प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह एक एक परियोजना के बनावट के नक्शे—डिजाइन यन्त्र मशीनरी और मदानन के बारे में अपना विशेष सदन की मेज पर रखें। हम जानना चाहते हैं कि उनमें क्या गड़बड़ियाँ और धांधलियाँ हैं। हम जानने हैं कि बिहार, यू० पी० और तामिलनाडू आदि में क्या हो रहा है, लेकिन वह कम से कम इस बात का फ्याल करें कि यह राजधानी है और कम से कम राजधानी में तो हमारे देश की बेइज्जती न हो।

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it was indeed a tragedy of the first magnitude that power



was restored to Parliament to amend any part of the Constitution but electric power went in Delhi for quite a few hours. There was an unprecedented crisis; it has been characterised to be the worst ever power crisis in Delhi. We, the M.Ps and other V.I.Ps, that is, the President, the Prime Minister and others have become the objects of joke. We are being advised not to return to our house this night because we may face a very uncomfortable situation there. Some suggest there might be a great problem for the Chair to permit so many persons in the galleries tomorrow. There may be over-flowing galleries tomorrow because many gentlemen and ladies would not find their homes very comfortable in the absence of electricity.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Then I will speak tomorrow.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** A very revealing statement!

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:** Mr. Indrajit Gupta politely advised the Minister Dr. Rao, to resign on this issue. May I ask whether he is satisfied with the functioning of the other departments? That is the difference between me and him. I do not find the performance of any other department any better than that of Dr. K. L. Rao. At least I must say, nobody is such a picture of humility and has so much knowledge about his department, as Dr. Rao. To my mind, all elements making for a near crisis are converging on the country. It seems to us that we are ready in the midst of a crisis. We have got food shortage, coal shortage, cement shortage, transport shortage—which sector is not a shortage sector is difficult for us to say. But the Government seems to be luxuriating in the warm-bath of complacency. Therefore we find this crisis having descended on us yesterday. This crisis did not descend on us all of a sudden. This has been maturing for quite some time. Government also had sufficient warning about it. May I say with a certain amount of

responsibility that I had been informed that even yesterday, quite a few hours before the power failure actually occurred, Dr. Rao had known about what was coming in the evening at 5 O'clock and he had had some kind of confabulation with the Prime Minister. He might not agree with it, because whenever the Prime Minister is sought to be involved in these matters, the ministers very jealously want to safeguard her reputation. That is natural. There had been deterioration in the relationship between the IAS officers and the engineers for quite some time. What was the Government doing? Is it the fault of Dr. Rao or of the Labour Minister? What is the Labour Minister doing about this matter all the time? My hon. friend is a labour leader and he would never put the blame on the head of the Labour Minister for the worsening labour situation in the country.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Let him make up his mind as to whom he is attacking—me or the Government.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:** I thought if I am attacking the Government, the attack automatically passes on to him also!

The engineers had been demanding the appointment of a technically qualified person as the General Manager of DESU for quite some time. They had submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister. What has happened to that memorandum? If they did not have any idea about how things are going to shape in the future, I do not think they deserve to be where they are. They ought to have known that trouble was brewing for some time and that it will take a serious dimension. Is it a fact that a memorandum has been submitted to the Prime Minister with an ultimatum that if action was not taken within a particular period, then the consequences would be the entire responsibility of the Government of India? If that was the ultimatum given to them, then I ask whether the entire blame does not now rest on

[Shri Shyamnandan Mishra]

them because they did not take action with regard to this memorandum in time?

I do not agree with the thesis of some of my hon. friends that this is part of the power crisis in the entire country. If it is a part of the power crisis in the entire country then the only common factor could be the mechanical failure. What else? If it is not mechanical failure, if it is human failure, then of course there may be variations in the relationship everywhere. If it had been mechanical failure, do my hon. friends suggest that every clerk has got the same age and same longevity? This is something very amazing to suggest; it is an astounding proposition. I am trying to argue before the House whether the reason could be the same for the power crisis which overtook the five plants in Delhi yesterday. How could the factor for failure be common for all the five plants? So, I completely agree with the view of the hon. Minister, as was reported in some newspapers, that it is not a mechanical failure, it is a human failure. The human failure can take so many forms and I am not prepared to figure out all the aspects of the human failure in this matter, but it indeed seems to be a human failure. And if it is a case of human failure, my submission is that this human failure came about because there had been failure on the part of the administration to respond to some of the legitimate demands and to do what was required to be done for improving the relationship amongst the various sections of the administration there.

Therefore, I would like to know whether the government came to know yesterday that there was an impending power crisis in the evening. My submission is that the Government were informed about it even then and they did not take any action. If it is a fact that they had got the information but they had no capacity

to master the crisis, then the country must be made to know that anything can happen in the capital city of Delhi and, therefore, also in other parts of the country. They had information about the crisis but they simply did not have the capacity to master the crisis. Then, did the Minister of Irrigation and Power have any consultation with the Labour Ministry with regard to this? If so, what action had they been taking jointly in order to improve the situation there? If the Prime Minister had taken interest in this after the memorandum had been submitted to her with an ultimatum that certain things must be done within a particular period, then what exactly did the Prime Minister do in this matter?

18 hrs.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd.): What about my Half-An-Hour Discussion? The hon. Speaker had categorically said that this Discussion will be deferred to tomorrow and that the Half-An-Hour Discussion will start at 6 O'Clock. This is what was said by him.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): I remember to have heard the hon. Speaker to say that if this Discussion swallows the Half-An-Hour Discussion, it will go to another day.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Samar Guha, in the first place, it has not been brought to my notice that the Speaker had said so. All that I could hear in the morning was that the Minister will not be here tomorrow and he asked that this Discussion might take place day after tomorrow. But since it is so very urgent, it seems, the House decided that the Discussion must take place today in order to afford the Minister an opportunity to reply to the debate.

I do not know what the hon. Speaker said about the Half-An-Hour Dis-

cussion. I have not been told anything. But somehow I felt that what he had said was that after this Discussion was concluded, the Half-An-Hour Discussion will be taken up or it will be taken up on some other day. It will not be written off but it will be taken up on some other day. If he has given that assurance, I think, we should continue with this Discussion.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I had to go to Calcutta yesterday for a very pressing business. Only because I got the Half-An-Hour Discussion today on land reforms which I considered to be more important, I deferred my going to Calcutta. I am going tomorrow early morning to Calcutta. I have my party conference there. It will not be possible for me to stay here. I am very sorry to say that I do not agree to this. This is a very important Half-An-Hour Discussion. I got the impression this morning that this will be taken up at 6 O' clock.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The subject of Mr. Samar Guha's Half-An-Hour Discussion is no doubt very important. There is no doubt about it. This may be taken up on some other day that suits him. This Discussion on power crisis will have no meaning unless we hear the Minister today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The matter is so simple. If Mr. Samar Guha agrees, when he comes back, it may be taken up at that time.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: If this Discussion is concluded, say, within half an hour, then my Half-An-Hour Discussion may be taken up at 6-30 p.m. I am prepared to stay here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I fully agree with Mr. Samar Guha. If we can confine the rest of the discussion to half an hour, then we can take up the Half-An-Hour Discussion also at 6-30 p.m.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: The hon. Member, Shri Samar Guha, is willing to have it on next Wednesday.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is all right now.

Almost all the parties have spoken....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I want to rise above the party and speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not want to shut out anybody. Under the Rules, one hour is allotted. Of course, it is upto the House to extend the time. Even so, I think, there should be a time-limit fixed.

Shri B. V. Naik—not more than five minutes.

18.05 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TRWARY in the Chair].

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the costs involved in these strikes. There are direct costs as well as indirect costs because of lack of production. I want to know whether certain studies have been made, wherever the engineers have gone on strike, in regard to indirect and direct costs because that also causes a phenomenal loss.

The hon. members of the Opposition are laying the blame based upon the rumours that have been spreading around in the city of Delhi, and there has been a persistent effort that has been made in order to build up a sort of tension and suspense as though something is going to befall us the moment we go out. With due deference to the hon. members, Mr. Mishra and others, I would like to say that we are prepared to meet any contingency that will come in public life, and one night's black-out is not going to scare us out of our beds. I do not know why they are gloating over such a small matter. We need not get scared as far as these matters are

[Shri B. V. Naik]

concerned. We are in public life. (Interruptions) We need not be scared about it. Yesterday all of us have gone through the darkness I am quite sure that the Opposition is preparing in its own way and tomorrow they would like to say that the Sun will never rise. I would like to hon. Minister to come out with a categorical statement. . . (Interruptions)

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (खालीयर):

बहु कह रहे हैं कि मामला बहुत छोटा है।

अगर मामला छोटा है तो शोषण देने की तकलीफ क्यों कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: A very plain and simple statement has been so much perverted and distorted. I would request a certain rectification in the thinking processes of the hon. members I hope the hon. Minister will be able to tell us categorically. . . (Interruptions) As far as VIP status is concerned, we care two hoots. We do not want light. We have been able to burn candle lights and we will burn it. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Will the hon members tell me once and for all whether any hon. Member has got the freedom of expression in this House?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: The Opposition should respect democratic processes.

I hope, we will be in a position to restore the power failure. It is not necessary for us to take kindergarten lessons out of the book of Mr Che Guvera as far as urban terrorism is concerned.

I am sure, the Government is equipped to meet all these contingencies and I would like Dr. K. L. Rao who has done wonderful work in the Ministry of Power and Irrigation, in spite of difficulties, to get up and say that we will be able to restore normalcy.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO (Karimnagar): It is a matter of great shame that the capital of this country has to face power crisis. I am told that for this matter, for the failure of these machines, the Power Minister is not responsible. He has already submitted so many schemes to the Cabinet, to the Finance Minister and to the Planning Minister. They are not at all sanctioning those schemes. How can he be held responsible for all these things? Shri Indrajit Gupta demanded his resignation. They wanted the blood of Dr. K. L. Rao. Why do you hesitate to go after the blood of other gentlemen who are responsible for this? This is what I would ask these people. Dr. K. L. Rao is not responsible for this. The Planning Minister and the Finance Minister, both of them are responsible for this. He wanted to import certain sophisticated machines for this purpose. But unfortunately the Finance Ministry and the Planning Ministry are coming in the way of that. This is not for Delhi alone, but for the whole of the country.

I am reminded of one story. Timur came invading this country. One Raju said, let him come; he has not reached Punjab, he has not come to Panipat. But ultimately he came here. We know what happened. The same thing is happening here with regard to this matter. Power crisis is there in Rajasthan Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Everywhere there is power failure. Now this has reached Delhi also. This is the capital city. All embassies are stationed here. What will be the impression in their minds about our country? If the capital is in such a situation, what about the States? The Finance Minister and the Planning Minister are not cooperating with you. If it is so, you may clearly tell us.

श्री एच० एच० बनर्जी (कानपुर):

समापति महोदय, मैं सब से पहले कहना चाहता हूँ कि जैसा मैंने दोस्त ने कहा कि आन्ध्र प्रदेश

है तो क्या है, उन्होने यहां तक कहा कि कहीं यह सूरज भी न उगे तो हम अंधेरे में घुमने के आदि नहीं हैं वह शायद हो। आज इस वक़्त जो पावर क्राइसिस पर हम डिस्कशन कर रहे हैं, दस हजार बिजली के कर्मचारी हिन्दुस्तान के कोने कोने से आकर पालियामेंट के दरवाजों पर खड़े हैं और इन्साफ की मांग कर रहे हैं। मुझे खुशी है डा० राव उन के नुमाइन्दों से मिले हैं। लेकिन आज जब हम 10 हजार की बात करते हैं तो साथ साथ यह भी सोचना पड़ेगा कि 20 हजार बिजली के कर्मचारी जो हरियाणा में हैं उन में से 6 हजार आज हरियाणा की जेलों में हैं और 5 हजार दिल्ली की जेल में हैं और रामलीला ग्राउण्ड के कैम्प में 6 हजार हैं। 40 प्रतिशत कर्मचारी हड़ताल पर हैं। मन्थनारायण जी ने जो कहा, बहुत खुशी हुई मुन बर, वही हमारे मंत्री महोदय का भी है। जब भी कहा जाय कि पावर क्राइसिस आ रही है गुजरात में तो आने दो दिल्ली हनुज दूर अम्न। फिर कहा गया पावर क्राइसिस हरियाणा तब आ गई है तो दिल्ली हनुज दूर अम्न, एक जाम और मही। उसके बाद पावर क्राइसिस दिल्ली तक आ चुकी है। मैं मुहम्मद शाह रंगील की बात नहीं करता। मैं मंत्री महोदय की बात करना चाहता हूँ और आज में दावे के साथ कहता हूँ कि यह इजीनियरिंग की लडाई है, यह कर्मचारियों की लडाई है। यह दस हजार कर्मचारी उस देश का निर्माण करना चाहते हैं। हम चाहते हैं देश में बिजली की मप्लाई बनी रहे क्योंकि टेलिफ़ोन के बगैर सोशलिज्म नहीं होगा। लेकिन आज जो उन की डिमांड है उस पर आप बुरा न मानें। हम चाहते थे कि टैक्नोक्रेट मिनिस्टर हों, हमें बड़ी खुशी हुई थी, हम ने स्वागत किया था लेकिन दस साल तक टैक्नोक्रेट रहने के बावजूद यह हालत हो-तो सोचना पड़ेगा कि आज सदन को क्या करना है, क्या उन की जगह खाली करा कर दूसरे को देना है। मैं रिकवैस्ट करूंगा कि हरियाणा में जिस तरह से अत्याचार हो रहा है और दिल्ली में जो 6 हजार लोग हैं

उनको जल्दी से रिहा किया जाये। हम आपके साथ पूरी तरह से सहयोग करेंगे लेकिन अगर मजदूर अपनी जायज मांगें आपके सामने रखते हैं तो इन्साफ के तलाश में एक तरफ मजदूर हों और दूसरी तरफ उनके फरायज हों, इस तरह से हम को देखना चाहिये।

श्री एस० ए० शर्मा (श्रीनगर) : मैं दो मिनट में दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। एक बात तो यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर पानी की कमी की वजह से, किसी एक्सीडेंट की वजह से पावर में क्राइसिस पैदा हो जाती दिल्ली में तो शायद माफ किया जा सकता था, उस को नजर अन्दाज किया जा सकता था लेकिन जिन इमारतों हालात में एकबचक पाच जेनेरेटर्स ने काम करना छोड़ दिया उस ने जायज तौर पर शक का मौका दिया है, शिकायत का मौका दिया है। यह बात जब राजधानी में हो सकती है तो आप अन्दाजा कीजिए इस देश में कहा कहा क्या क्या हो रहा होगा।

दूसरी बात मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ अगर पावर शॉर्टेज दिल्ली में बसने वालों पर आन पड़ी तो इस में बराबर के सब शरीक होने चाहिये। अखबार में लिखा है जिस का अभी तक विरोध नहीं किया गया कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर के यहां राष्ट्रपति के यहां और न मालूम किस किस पति के यहां कल ही बिजली रैप्टोर हुई। जबकि दिल्ली की जनता बिजली के होते हुए भी झुलस गई, उस को पावर का सफ्ट बर्दाश्त करना पड़ा तब क्या सोशलिज्म के दावेदारों, गरीबी हटाओ के दावेदारों और बराबरी के दावेदारों को शर्म नहीं आई। (ध्वजध्वनि) इसलिए यह मुजरिमाना गफलत है और मैं समझता हूँ कि सिर्फ मिनिस्टर ही नहीं पूरी सरकार की यहा से छुट्टी कर देनी चाहिये।

[:عربی ایس-اے-شوم (سری نگر):]

میں دو ملک میں دو باتیں کہتا

[شری ایس - اے - شمیم]  
چاہتا ہوں - ایک بات یہ کہنا  
چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر پانی کی کمی کی  
وجہ سے - کسی ایکسیڈنٹ کو  
وجہ سے پاور میں کرائیسس  
پیدا ہو جاتی - دلی میں تو  
شاید معاف کہا جا سکتا تھا اس کو  
نظرو انداز کہا جا سکتا تھا لیکن جن  
قوانامی حالات میں یکایک پانچ  
چلوپتروں نے کام کرنا چھوڑ دیا اس نے  
جائزہ طور پر شک کا موقعہ دیا ہے -  
شکیت کا موقعہ دیا ہے - یہ بات  
جب راجدھانی میں ہو سکتی ہے تو  
آپ اندازہ کیجئے کہ اس دیس میں  
کہاں کہاں کیا ہو رہا ہوگا -

دوسری بات میں کہنا چاہتا ہوں -  
اگر پاور سہولتیں دلی میں بسے والوں  
پر ان پڑی تو اس میں یا برابر کے  
سب شریک ہونے چاہئیں - اخبار نے  
لکھا ہے کہ جس کا ابھی تک ورودہ  
نہیں کیا گیا کہ پرائم منسٹر کے یہاں  
راشٹر پتی کے یہاں اور نہ معلوم کس  
کس پتی کے یہاں کل ی بجلی  
ریسٹور ہوئی جبکہ دلی کی جلتا  
بجلی کے ہوتے ہوئے چھلس گئی -  
اس کو پاور کا سہولت برداشت کرنا پڑا  
تب سولہ لاکھ کے دعوے داروں - غریبی  
ہٹانے کے دعوے داروں اور ہزاروں کے دعوے  
داروں کو شرم نہیں آئی - (دوبارہ دہان)  
اس لئے معجزانہ فطرت ہے اور میں

سمجھتا ہوں اس لئے ہی نہیں پڑی  
سرکار کی یہاں سے چھٹی کو دلی  
چاہئے]

شری مہندر کمار : (نئی دہلی) :  
ابھی جب ہم اس देश में समाजवाद लाने की  
कोशिश कर रहे हैं तब हमारी कुछ विरोधी पार्टी  
के लोगो ने सैबोटाज का काम किया है। मजदूरों  
की भलाई हम भी चाहते हैं लेकिन इस वक्त  
जब हम ने होलसेल फूडग्रेन्स का टेक-ओवर  
किया है, हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि हर एक को  
अनाज मिले उस वक्त बिजली के बारे में  
चारों तरफ सेबोटाजिंग का काम किया जा रहा  
है।

दूसरे जो टैक्सटाइल मिल में हड़ताल  
हो रही है, उसके बारे में मैं माननीय मंत्री जी  
से जानना चाहती हूँ कि वह क्या कर रहे हैं।  
मजदूरों की सिम्पैथी में जो स्ट्राइक है और जो  
बिजली की स्ट्राइक है इसमें दो चीजें हैं।  
एक तो जो तकलोफे है मजदूरों की टैक्सटाइल  
मिल में और दूसरी तरफ जो सैबोटाजिंग का  
प्रोग्राम कुछ लोगो का है उससे गवर्नमेंट  
कुछ कर नहीं पा रही है। गवर्नमेंट बहुत  
अच्छी तरह से कदम उठा रही है इसको खरम  
करने के लिये उस की कोशिश जारी है लेकिन  
दूसरी तरफ जो पार्टीज ऐसी हैं जो कि  
सैबोटाजिंग का प्रोग्राम चला रही हैं, गवर्नमेंट  
को चाहिये कि पब्लिक के सामने खुलेआम  
उन को लाए और बताए कि किस तरह से वह  
इस देश का नुकसान कर रहे हैं।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति  
महोदय, आप चाहे तो एक सवाल मैं पूछ लूँ।

मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ पानी से, कोयले से  
और अन्य से पर्याप्त बिजली प्राप्त करने की  
योजना बिकल हो गई तो क्या विद्युत् मंत्री  
अब पाताल से बिजली प्राप्त करने की कोई  
योजना बना रहे हैं ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO):** I want first of all to thank the hon. Members for having taken interest in the subject and shown considerable interest in the development of power in the country in general and in Delhi in particular.

I shall deal very briefly with the particular accident that has occurred and later on, if you would permit me some time, I shall try to answer some of the questions and some of the points that have been raised, especially by one of the respected leaders in this House whom I have seen for very long as a very distinguished Member of Parliament, namely Shri Indrajit Gupta.

About this particular accident, the position is as follows. Nobody new anything about it. In fact, when I was answering a question in Parliament, I said that so far as Delhi was concerned, there was no question of any shortage. That is, because in Delhi we have 380 MW power as against a demand of 250 to 290 MW. So, we have got a very good margin, a margin which does not exist anywhere else in the whole country. We are also going to add another 100 MW this year whereas the load is going to grow up by only another 50 MW. So, at the end of the Fourth Plan, we shall have a comfortable margin in Delhi. Therefore, there is no question of any power crisis or power shortage or anything of that sort arising in Delhi.

As I said, we never new anything about it earlier. Shri Shyamnandan Mishra has asked this question specifically, and that is why I am replying to this question. I never knew anything about it. I was in my office at about 5.30 p.m. and I came to know about this, only afterwards; the first time that I came to know about this accident was at 6 p.m. Details were not reported to me even at six O' clock, and I never knew any particulars about the accident. I never met the

Prime Minister in that connection, and I never had any discussion with her at all about this, because we never knew anything about this. I am mentioning all this, because stories are built up like that, and somebody was telling that there was going to be an accident, and people would be going out in darkness, etc. It is very unfortunate that such rumours should go about from any distinguished members such as we have here.

What happened was this. I heard about it at about six O' clock. The accident occurred at 5.30 p.m., and then at six O' clock I heard about it and I immediately rushed to the power-house. What happened there was this. There are two machines in stations A and B near Rajghat, very old ones, and five machines in station C.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Older than the hon. Minister?

**DR. K. L. RAO:** Not older than I; they are much younger than I. These machines are about thirty or forty years old. I have to answer the question of distinguished Members because they have the privilege to say anything they like in this Hall, and I know that.

Out of these five machines, two machines have been working very satisfactorily. In fact, we are producing more power here in Delhi. From here, we are contributing power to UP and Haryana. We have been supplying this surplus power very steadily and very well from Delhi.

There is one line connecting Ballabhgarh with station C; that is a 220 KV line, which is a high tension line. At about 5.30 p.m. what happened was this. We do not know the exact reasons, and they have got to be ascertained. I do not want to prejudice the inquiry committee and tell them anything about it in advance. At 5.30 p.m. what happened was that on that line, on one of the lines there had been earthing. An earthing of a high



[Dr. K. L. Rao]

tension line means that immediately the whole current passes to the earth. This is a very big shock. How that has happened is a matter to be ascertained, and this is not a matter for inference or anything of that sort, because there is an automatic instrument there which registers it. The first thing that was got registered was that on the 220 KV line, there were three wires, and one of the wire got grounded, the moment it got grounded, a heavy current passes to the earth and the heavy current passes through so many machines working, because they are on a common busbar. Some hon. Members were asking why it was that all the five machines stopped. The reason is that all of them were working on a common busbar, and so as soon as that grounding took place, all the five machines went out. How this happened is still a matter to be discussed, whether it was an accident or whether it was due to birds, because birds also could do that, or whether any particular employee from among so many employees who are dissatisfied with the employment and so on in the electrical field had thrown a wire across the line. If you just throw a wire across the high tension line, it can easily be grounded, and any system in the world can be completely got into very great disaster by just throwing a wire across the live wires. This has occurred everywhere in the world. So, this is nothing surprising. This is nothing new to Delhi.

That is why in the terms of reference of the inquiry committee I have specifically mentioned as one of the terms, whether it is possible for us to have equipment which can isolate one machine after the other, so that even if one machine is gone or it goes completely out, the other machines will keep on working. It was not that I did not know about these things. These machines were on a common busbar and that was why this kind of thing happened. Some people have

made some fun about it. I would submit that it is not a matter for fun. These are technical facts and matters of technical design.

So what happened was that at 5.30 p.m. a fault occurred in the 220 KV line. Immediately there was a heavy rush of current, just like a lightning. When there is a lightning and it gets connected to the earth, everything will be completely fused in that part. The machines have got safety devices and they have cut it off; otherwise, the machines would have been spoiled. Those acted and all the machines got out of commission.

In the case of steam turbines, the difficulty is that it takes a considerable time to put it back in order. The whole thing gets cooled and then it has to be heated back to a particular temperature. At that particular stage when the necessary temperature is attained the machine is started and gradually the load is put on. It is not like a machine where if you simply switch on, power will be generated. It is not like a hydro-plant as in Bhakra where if you open a valve, power will be generated. It is not so in the case of thermal stations. In the case of thermal station, it is a very sensitive equipment. One has to very carefully bring it up or bring it down; otherwise, there will be explosions and vibrations.

These machines that we have got are doing very well. It is not a machine trouble. The hon. Member for Nilgiris was mentioning that the machines are all old, outdated and so on. All the machines have been working very well. In fact, the efficiency of these machines we have got here is very high. I am very glad about it.

We have no spare machines either. Generally for a station of this type, we would keep a spare machine so that when one of the machines is taken out for repairs and so on, the spare machine could be used. In this case, because of the emergency and the necessity for putting all of them to use, we

did not have a spare machine. The machines are all working all the hours of the day for the last six months continuously and they have given an extremely good performance. Even now the machines are all quite good. The only unfortunate occurrence is the accident that has happened.

Who has done this, whether it has been done artificially or by a human agency, I do not know. That is for the Inquiry Committee to find out. But what I found when I went there was that there was some friction between the engineers and the workers. The engineers were in the control room. The workers, the people who open the valves or work on the boilers and so on, were all there. I detected a conflict between these two. The engineers were in a nervous condition because these workers who belong to a particular union were gathered outside the gate under a particular gentleman, a particular leader, who I do not want to name, were shouting against the engineers that they would kill them, burn the machines, the equipment, their cars and so on. So the engineers were all agitated. They were not looking so much to the restoration of the machines.

So I sat down there. I said, 'No, I will not leave this place. Do not worry about these things'. The people outside the gate were not allowing even water or meals or coffee to be brought. This kind of things was going on. So I and my Secretary in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, both of us, stayed on (*Interruptions*)

Our immediate object was to restore the power, because the people of Delhi cannot be made to suffer. Therefore, we wanted to have the machines restored to functioning immediately. But I found that the engineers were in a nervous condition. And on the other side were these workers making noises at the gate and so on. So I decided to stay on. I stayed on till 2 a.m. At 1 a.m. I called for the police

Another thing happening was that when the engineers were trying to develop the machines and run them, some unidentified people were switching it off. When the boiler was coming up, they were cutting off the oil. These are all things that happen when the human passions are roused. I do not know how this conflict has come about. I never know that there is a human conflict in this particular case.

So I called for the police. But they did not want to interfere. Then I said I would not leave the place because these are very costly machines and if anything happened to them, we would not have power in Delhi for four or five years. It takes that much time for a station like this to be developed. I did not want Delhi to be deprived of power for four years.

So I sat there and told the engineers 'do not worry; I will be here'. Afterwards, the police agreed. I am glad the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi, Shri Kapur, came and said 'It is all right. I will take care of this'. But I stated two conditions, that there should be no conflict between these two sets of people, the equipment, whatever happens, must be kept completely safe. He said he will take care of this. Under these conditions, I left the place at about 2.30 a.m.

What I want to submit is that the accident has occurred. This type of accident occurs everywhere. In fact, in New York State, five or six years ago, an accident occurred which threw the entire State of New York—not the New York City alone, but the entire State of New York,—into darkness, and out of gear. There was complete darkness for three to four days. One thing has to be explained: in a great system of electricity, while we are all happy to share its benefits, we must also be prepared to face the disadvantage that arises from it sometimes but not always.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:  
Why do you lay stress on the accident

[Shri Shyamnandan Mishra]

when you saw the lack of co-operation?

DR. K. L. RAO: Well, what I said was that there was an accident that occurred. How that occurred, I do not know. How that has happened and so on, has to be found from the Committee's enquiry. What I want to submit in continuation is that in the morning they started the machines, and those two machines, A & B, were started last night itself, and today we have got three machines. These three machines are sufficient for giving electricity for the whole of the city. Another machine is also expected to be received. Therefore, there should be no difficulty for the generation of electricity for the city today.

Shri Naik said that these things do happen now and then. It is something different from the shortage of power that is prevalent in the country. This is not a shortage of power. It is an accident that has occurred, but it is a deplorable accident no doubt; how that has occurred I do not know. That is why I have appointed a committee consisting of a very high technical men including one of the military-engineers also. I wanted to get them there to have their way of thinking and so on. This committee is to find out the reasons, the causes of this accident that has occurred and to fix the responsibility.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: May I know the personnel of the committee?

DR. K. L. RAO: They are all technical men, and so I did not want to waste the time of the House. But I will certainly read it out. Mr. M. Tatta R. J., a member of the Central Water and Power Commission; then, Mr. Lakshmiapati. These are some of the topmost men in thermal engineering. Mr. Lakshmiapati is a former Chief Engineer. Then, there is Major-Gen. Poduva, Commander, Headquarter Technical Group; then Mr. Joshi, the Chief Engineer in charge of the

Koradi power station. He is an extremely good engineer with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board; and then Mr. Sinha, Chief Engineer, CWPC, who will be the Secretary of the committee.

The terms of reference are, to investigate the causes of the complete breakdown of the power supply in the Indraprastha power station in Delhi metropolitan area and to ascertain, in particular, whether it was due to equipment failure or due to failure of the transmission system; to fix the responsibility for such a breakdown and to suggest the appropriate remedial measures of a technical nature after examining in detail the power station design, the switching and controlling arrangements, the transmission network, in order to ensure that such breakdowns do not recur in future. These faults do occur in the transmitting system and we have got to protect our equipment and isolate the equipment as fast as possible

What I submit is that so far as the accident that has occurred yesterday is concerned, it has nothing to do with —(Interruptions) Oh, I didn't say it. It is the 15th May. 15 days' time is given. Now, what I say is, while it is indeed extremely regrettable, this is one of the things that do happen. That is one of the accidents that may occur anywhere at any time. So, I do not think the House should take such a very serious notice except to rectify the conditions that are noticed on this occasion and to see that the conflict between the sets of forces that are working in this power house is resolved; that conflict should be resolved.

Then, Sir, some Members were saying that the V.I.P. areas were lighted. It is not like that. As I submitted, there are two sources for power—one from Bhakra system and the other is from the local thermal station. 40 per cent of Delhi is covered by Bhakra Power. It just happened and so it is not a question of V.I.P.s, or V.P.s.

Then, some hon. Members were asking about Sivasankar Committee. I have replied earlier. Perhaps the hon. Members were not there at that time. What has happened is this. There is an Officers' Association here in Delhi and the engineers had a certain grievance, as anybody else has got now-a-days, and they all represented. And I appointed a Committee just to assist the local Delhi Municipal Corporation. That Committee consisted of Shri Sivasankar and two others. They submitted their final report just now—in the month of March. I immediately passed on that report to Delhi Electric Supply Undertakings authority. They approved of the scales of pay. Then they sent it on to the Delhi Municipal Corporation. The D.M.C., when it was put up to them, rejected it on the ground that there was no translation in Hindi or Urdu. It must have been translated. The hon Member yesterday was saying that instead of translating that in Urdu or Hindi, it should have been done in Hindustani. Whatever it is, it will be done in a month's time. As I said yesterday, the recommendations are quite acceptable and there should be no difficulty. I do not think there would be any difficulty in implementing that.

DR. KAILAS (Bombay South): Whether payment will be made in Hindi or Urdu? Will that be all right?

DR. K. L. RAO: It should be in terms of rupees. I have gone through the Committee's Report. And so far as scales of pay are concerned, they are quite reasonable. Whatever Shri Sivasankar has recommended will be given with retrospective effect.

Then Shri Indrajit Gupta made it an occasion to say something about the power shortage. Unfortunately he was not available at the time of my reply to the hon. Members in my budget speech. I must seek your pardon if I repeat.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I want to ask one question about this matter. You told us just now that you were there last night in the late hours. You were conscious about this tension between two sections of staff—the engineers and the workers. Did you also get any evidence of tension or ill-feelings or strain between the engineers and the Chairman of the Electric Supply Undertakings?

DR. K. L. RAO: I did see that. We are taking necessary action to rectify these things. That is a human psychology.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Did the engineers represent about their grievance about the treatment given or behaviour of that gentleman?

DR. K. L. RAO: As I submitted earlier, there was a conflict between them. I referred the matter to the Labour Department. With the Labour Commissioner I had a discussion. He said that it was something connected with the law and order. That was what he said. Anyway, I sought his advice to sort out the differences. At least the human relationship comes in there. I think that is not a difficult problem. This thing has got to be sorted out. I am sure we will do it. One thing is that when there is excitement, we have to ensure that the power station being a very valuable one has got to be guarded. I have taken precautions. I requested the Military Engineers to go there to see to it. They must have gone there by this time. This will create a psychological feeling. All our operators are there. They are extremely good boys doing quite a good work.

श्री हुकम चन्द कठुवाय : चोपडा का घराब क्यों किया ?

DR. K. L. RAO: Similarly I met today a number of officers of the C.W.P.C. as also the engineers concerned. They are very good. In the Power Station there is one Mr. Basu,

an extremely valuable type of man, and then there is one Shri Chopra, Deputy Chief Engineer whom the hon. Member Shri Kachwai mentioned. They are all able engineers.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:**  
He was gheraoed

**DR. K. L. RAO:** Had I known it, I would have gone there and get him relieved. All these things came to my notice only later on. I did not know it earlier. When I went there I wanted to divert their attention to the repairing and bringing back of the machine to order. I encouraged them to do that.

So far as the Delhi power station is concerned, it is very good. The machines are very good. The operators are very fine people and their efficiency is good. But there is a human conflict and that has got to be resolved and all the tensions have to go.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:**  
How much power is available against the requirement of 250 MW?

**DR. K. L. RAO:** The power is available

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:**  
Is it available out of those five plants or you have to divert from Bhakra?

**DR. K. L. RAO:** Bhakra is in such a tight corner as it is supplying power to Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana. But we are getting some power from there also. 3 machines have been started and their total capacity is about 160 to 170 MW. This is in addition to what we get from Bhakra nor-

mally. Actually there is a large amount of surplus power. But the starting of these machines has to be done very carefully. At 4 p.m. they were taking a load of 100 or so as against 140 MW. Every half an hour they go on increasing. They are also putting another machine. I do not think there should be any difficulty at all.

Mr. Indrajit Gupta referred to the fact that power shortage occurs in this country very often. I want to tell a few facts about it. The power shortage is a characteristic of any growing nation. Even USSR, which has got 200 million KW of power, is short of power. Even in USA there is shortage of power. . . (Interruptions) I will come nearer home. In Rajasthan the load was 4.8 million KW hours a day in October. In the shortage period it increased by 2 million KW hours. In the month of March one or two units went out of order. So, the shortage was felt. This is bound to happen.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:**  
When was the ultimatum submitted?

**DR. K. L. RAO:** I find that hon. Members are anxious to go home to see the lights. So, I want to submit that so far as power system in Delhi is concerned, it is quite sound and there is nothing to worry about. If a certain amount of break-down occurs like this, we cannot help it because it is beyond us. But we will take every step to see that this does not recur.

18.47 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, April 26, 1973/Vaisakha 6, 1895 (Saka).*