

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): I want to make the whole thing clear. According to the present provision of section 44 of the Electricity Supply Act, the State Electricity Boards are quite competent to deal with the matter. But if it is beyond 25 megawatts, they have to come to the Central Electricity Authority to get the clearance. If the captive plants are very small, they become very expensive, whether it is in coal or diesel. So, normally we do not encourage small captive plants. Here we do not have any fixed policy, as I said. We are trying to have a fixed policy on this. We have called a Conference of all Power Ministers which will be presided over by the Prime Minister, and there we are going to decide on certain norms on this.

श्री राजेश्वर प्रसाद शर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बिजली की कमी के कारण जो पड़े लिखे नौजवान छोटे उद्योग लगाते हैं उन की बुरी हालत हो रही है क्यों कि बिजली की कमी के कारण उत्पादन नहीं होता । दूसरे जो पैके सरकार से लेकर उद्योग लगाते हैं उस पर कर्ज बढ़ता जाता है । मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि जब तक बिजली की कमी के कारण उन का उत्पादन नहीं होता तब तक के लिए उन का कर्ज माफ किया जा सके ?

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise out of this Question. It does not relate to this.

Next Question.

### Foreign collaboration for setting up Hydro-Electric Power Stations

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\*123. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to seek foreign collaboration for setting up hydro-electric power stations within a short period; and

(b) if so, the names of the foreign countries from which technical "know-how" has been sought for this purpose and which are the projects approved by Government for foreign collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). For exploiting the large hydro potential available in the country to the maximum extent and with a view to ensuring that these projects are completed in the shortest possible time, it has been decided to take such measures as are necessary to improve the capability of the organisations involved in the execution of hydro-electric projects in the country. This may involve upgrading of the technology used in the construction methods, improvement in investigation techniques and hydro-electric planning, etc. To the extent necessary, and in areas where know-how is not available within the country, foreign expertise will be inducted with a view to securing this objective.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: It was reported in the *Business Standard* of 27th May, 1980 that a high level meeting was convened by the Electricity Authority and a decision has been taken to seek foreign collaboration for hydel power generation.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister. Where is the necessity to go in for foreign collaboration when the prestigious BHEL is there which is very well-versed in this field and possesses the necessary technical know-how. If it is a question of long gestation period, why not the Government of India just see that the BHEL would avoid this long gestation period and give us the technical know-how without going in for foreign collaboration?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: With the passage of time, new surveys have been conducted and we have found that there are certain projects which are feasible but where the technical

know-how is not available. There are geological problems facing us where satellite imageries are necessary. Then diamond drilling is necessary which is not available in the country and the problem is how expedite the crash programme of more power generation; wherever necessary we have to go in for it.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: If that is the position, I would like to know whether the government of Kerala and the Kerala State Electricity Board have sought the clearance for Canadian collaboration for speeding up the completion of the third stage of the Idukki Project and if so, what is the attitude of the government regarding that particular proposal made by the Kerala State Electricity Board and the Kerala government.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): Our approach is very clear on this. As per the current technology, we have noticed that in India it takes 10 to 12 years to complete a hydel project. Now, we are thinking—we have not taken a decision on this, let me make it clear—but we are thinking that if this period can be condensed to 5 or 6 years and for this we can borrow technology from any country in the national interest...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He put a specific question about the Idukki project.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: As I said, there is no fixed policy on this.

MR. SPEAKER: As a matter of fact, that question does not relate to this. (Interruptions) That is right, but he could have said so otherwise.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He asked: what was the reaction to the Kerala Government proposal for the Idukki project.

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask a separate question.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: It does not arise out of the main question.

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: I would like to know from the hon Minister whether there is any thinking in the government to make any change in the basic policy of buildings up self-reliance in the field of power generation.

Secondly, would the government seek the advice and opinion of the Bharat Heavy Electrical research engineers if any concrete foreign collaboration agreement is taken up?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: As I said already, we will only go in for foreign technology when Indian technology is not available.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: rose.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you taking the floor?

PROF. N. G. RANGA: On the same question, Sir. Are the Government taking steps to send some of our experts abroad to get themselves trained so that when they come back, they can help us to reduce the gestation period and obtain the necessary know-how

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: May I know from the hon. Minister—in his reply he has stated that the technology required for the hydro-electric projects is not available in this country and it normally takes ten years—since we would like to complete the projects within six year's time, whether it is the paucity of funds which is the main reason or the technical know-how which is not available in this country which, in fact, is the main reason? If it is lack of technology that is the main reason, then, certainly, we will be entitled to know what exactly are the technical deficiencies which are obtaining in this country?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Supply of Kerosene to West Bengal

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

**SHRI RUP CHAND PAL:**

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

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

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

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

#### Statement

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

(Figures in metric tonnes)

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

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

(c) Does not arise.