

The earlier methodology adopted by the committee was deferred and it was based on capital employed method, which means net assets plus working capital. Since the issues raised by the industry were complicated and had financial implications, the scrutiny took some time.

श्री राम सिंह यादव : मैं जनता चाहता हूँ कि इफको को कितनी प्रांट दी गई है और दूसरी कम्पनियों को कितनी प्रांट दी गई है ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: *Ad hoc* Payment is made on the basis of escalation of the prices.

Himalayan rivers Potential for Hydel Power

*327. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) do Government propose to explore the possibility of utilising the potential of Himalayan rivers for the generation of hydro-electric power;

(b) if so, do Government also propose to enter into necessary agreements with our neighbouring countries like Nepal; and

(c) what concrete and time-bound steps are proposed to augment the generation of hydro-electric power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Government is anxious to exploit the country's hydro-power potential. In this connection, following steps have been taken:—

(i) The reassessment of hydro-electric potential in the country is being carried out in the Central Electricity Authority.

(ii) In pursuance of the above reassessment, the Central Electricity Authority has undertaken a study to identify further hydel schemes that could be taken up for execution in a phased manner.

(iii) With a view to increasing the hydro component in the power plan, the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation and North Eastern Electric Power Corporation have been established in the Central Sector, for taking up the execution of suitable projects and thus supplementing the efforts of the States, in this regard.

(iv) Serious attention is also being given to improving the methods of investigation and construction with a view to executing the projects within the shortest time-frame.

As regard agreement with neighbouring countries, Nepal has evinced great interest in the development of hydro-electric power and the matter is under discussion with the Government of Nepal.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You will be surprised that in the statement laid on the table of the House there is no reference to the Himalayan Rivers at all. I would like to know from the hon. Minister out of the total power requirements in the country what component of these requirements is the hydel power. Out of that how much power we have been able to generate through hydro-electric power stations and if we are not able to meet that requirement, in that case what concrete steps are being taken to have this generation in a time bound manner.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: So far as the Himalayan Rivers are concerned, the present capacity of the hydel power project under construction is 3399 mw and the installed capacity is 3099 mw.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: My question was very sharp and pointed. What is the total power requirements of the country and out of that what is the component of hydel power and out of that requirement what is the actual production?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): 11,000 mw is the

hydro installed capacity. It has already been harnessed. During this Plan period 1980—85 we are intending to have another 5,000 mw capacity. At the present moment we think that 75,000 mw can be harnessed from hydro.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: In view of what the hon. Minister said in the statement, I would like to know if for instance the full potential of river like Brahmaputra is to be utilised and of other rivers also is to be utilised, in that case we will have to have some agreement with countries like Nepal—the one you have already indicated in your statement that you are trying to make necessary efforts.

You have only expressed a pious desire that good results will be produced. But if you have already started the negotiations, at what stage are the negotiations or just as there is power shortage so far as hydel power is concerned, is there shortage in the negotiations also?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: We are having discussions with the Government of Nepal but we have indicated that we are interested in three major projects—Karnali, Pancheshwar, Kurangi, Western Rathi, one having 3600 mw capacity costing Rs. 11000 crores; another having 1200 capacity costing over Rs. 200 crores and so on and so forth. We have so indicated and had discussions on it.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the projects in the Sixth Five Year Plan and what is the total number of schemes to be taken up.

MR. SPEAKER: That has already been answered.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I would also like to know so far as Seventh Five Year Plan is concerned.

श्री शारदादे राय : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह सूचना है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की पन-बिजली उपकरण करने की प्रायोजना में एक सबसे बड़ी

कमजोरी यह थी कि बंगाल हिमालय के बहु बिज्याचल पहाड के सूखे इलाके में इसका प्रयास श्रीवारा में कर रहे थे ? इसको ठीक करने के लिये अब टिहरी योजना चल रही है ? उसके बेसमेंट का, और तमाम शुरूआती काम हो चुका है। क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश में, और सार उत्तर भारत में, बिजली की कमी को देखते हुए उस योजना को जल्दी पूरा करने का प्रयास करेगी ?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: The Minister in his statement said that the C.E.A. is having a re-assessment of the hydro-power potential in the country. May I know as to what was the original hydro potential available and of that, how much has been utilised so far, how many project reports based on hydro-power projects have been submitted to the Government of India and for the rest of the potential what efforts the C.E.A. has made to see that the projects reports are submitted by the respective State Governments. If the reports have been submitted by the State Governments, what action has the C.E.A. taken in the matter?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: So far as the Himalayan regions is concerned, about 20 schemes are in progress and the potential is over 3000 MW. 72 schemes have been identified all over the country, out of which 21 belong to the Himalayan region. The capacity so far as the Himalayan region is concerned is 3000 MW. As for the all-India figure for the 72 schemes which have been identified, the capacity is over 16,000 MW.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: It is common knowledge that the largest unexploited hydel potential is from the rivers flowing from Nepal into India. The Minister gave a rather general answer that negotiations were on and talks were on with Nepal. So far as Karnali is concerned, it has a potential of producing 4500 MW almost one-sixth of India's total production today. 4 groups were going to be set up—A, B, C and D. Groups A, B and C were going to meet and submit their reports to D, which would co-ordinate the reports and then put up a report

to an overall committee. I would like to ask a pointed question: Have the committees A, B and C for the Karnali Project met and if not, what are the reasons for the delay? Mr. Ram Saini, Foreign Secretary, had suggested on his trip to Nepal about four months ago that a joint river waters review committee should be set up which could look 60 years ahead on the exploitation of waters of Nepal and India. What is Nepal's response to this suggestion? Is this committee going to be set up?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: From our side, we have taken a lot of initiative on this, but unfortunately Nepal has not shown so much interest. I am talking of Karnali. Unless Nepal comes forward and the negotiations are settled, investigation work cannot start. After all, we are talking of two sovereign States. Nepal also is a sovereign State and Nepal has to agree.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harinatha Misra.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: My question whether committees A, B, and C have met has not been answered.

MR. SPEAKER: He will answer it along with this.

SHRI HARINATHA MISRA: In view of the fact that major rivers like Kosi, Kamla, Gandak and others have their catchment areas in Nepalese territory....

MR. SPEAKER: This question is relating to Himalayan rivers.

SHRI HARINATHA MISRA: I am not repeating the question. These catchment areas have great potential for development of hydroelectric power. Do the Government attach the necessary importance to the development of these resources? Is negotiation being carried on at ministerial level?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: I have already answered this question.

I have said that we are carrying on discussions with Nepal regarding these projects.

SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: According to the United Nations survey the Brahmaputra takes a sharp U turn in the territory of China. If we make a tunnel of 200 metres, we can get 15,000 megawatts of firm power. And for your information there is such a project within the border of Brazil and Paraguay on the river Parana which generates nearly 14,000 megawatts of power. In view of the better relations with China, is the Government of India thinking of starting negotiations at least for a preliminary survey?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: We will look into this suggestion.

DR. KARAN SINGH: This is a question regarding the Himalayan rivers and two of the most important Himalayan rivers, of course, are the Indus from which we derive our very name and the Chenab. Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to tell us as to what is happening with regard to the Sthagna Hydro-electric Project on the Indus near Leh which has been under consideration for many years, and the Salal and Dulhasti projects on the Chenab because the Chenab has millions of watts of power going waste into Pakistan, and the Indus also has not been tapped at all?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Salal project is under execution. About Dulhasti we have decided to entrust the execution of the project to NHPC.

Coal-Based Fertilizer Plant in West Bengal

*331. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal State Government has a proposal to set up a coal-based fertilizer plant in the coal belt of the State; and