

(c) whether Government have decided to establish a plant in the State of Mysore also?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDRA GANDHI): (a) Apart from the Tarapur Atomic Power Station which has already been commissioned, three Atomic Power Stations are likely to be established in the country in the near future.

(b) These stations will be located at Rawatbhata (Rajasthan), Kalpakam (Tamil Nadu) and Narora (Uttar Pradesh) respectively.

(c) A decision on the location of an Atomic Power Station in the Southern Electricity Region (which includes the State of Mysore) can be taken only after the Site Selection Committee which has already been constituted by the Department of Atomic Energy submits its final report and it is considered by the Government.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED POWER SHORTAGE IN U.P.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported power shortage in UP resulting in partial closure of textile mills, engineering units and Defence production factories."

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL). The power supply position in Uttar Pradesh is at present tight. As against an average daily requirement of energy of 24.3 million units per day,

the average availability during the next eight months will be only of the order of 21 million units per day. There is thus a shortage to the extent of 3.3 million units per day. A relief of about 1.1 million units per day, 0.7 million units from Bihar and 0.4 million units from Madhya Pradesh, has been possible at present. This has helped to mitigate the shortage to the extent of 1.1 million units per day. There is also shortage in peaking capacity at present. As against the peak requirement of about 1500 MW in the State, the availability is only about 1100 MW, leaving a gap of 400 MW. This is being met by rostering of loads and by imposing restrictions on peak loads. Drought conditions prevailing in the State as a result of failure of rains, besides reduced availability from the States major hydro storage project Rihand, have also resulted in increased demand for power from tubewells and other agricultural consumers who have to tap all the available sub-soil water for rabi cultivation.

The U. P. State authorities had passed orders in August 1972 for staggering of holidays of industrial consumers, 25 per cent cut in consumption and reduction in the evening working hours of shops and commercial establishments with a view to keep down the peak.

The U.P. State authorities have from 18-11-1972 imposed cuts on supply of power to consumers in urban areas except continuous process industries, hospitals, defence installations and essential services like water supply between the hours 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. daily. During this period, all the tubewells and other agricultural consumers will be given supply. This arrangement will continue only upto the end of 30th November 1972, where-after urban supplies to domestic and other consumers are proposed to be restored. However, there will be cut on industrial consumers from 2 P.M. to 3 P.M. During this period, supply of power for tubewells will be shut down.

Except for these hours, power supply to the tubewells in the rural areas will be maintained for 18 hours. This cut from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. will not affect the textile mills and engineering units who work two shifts a day. Improvement is expected with the commissioning of the first 100 MW unit at Obra Thermal Power Station Extension, which is expected in January 1973.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I must explain my surprise over the statement. The hon. Minister perhaps does not know what has happened, what a terrible crisis is there in Uttar Pradesh now. It is a sad commentary on our planning that even after 25 years of freedom, with a most powerful government at the Centre and also less powerful but still powerful governments in the States, this power crisis has taken place in all the States, and the worst-hit is Uttar Pradesh.

In reply to my Short Notice Question No. 2 dated 15th June, 1972 regarding power shortage in Uttar Pradesh, Dr. K. L. Rao had said that 'it is true that there is heavy shortage of power in Uttar Pradesh; it is as much as five million units a day. We are trying to get power from D.V.C. We are also trying to see whether some more projects could be set up to produce power'. He also said that "for two or three years, the power position in Uttar Pradesh will be difficult." So for two or three years, the power situation in Uttar Pradesh will be difficult. Now, what is the position in UP today?

I have got the figures showing that nearly 600 registered factories, in the large, medium and small scale sector, are paralyzed resulting in loss of production and wages. Hundreds of other unregistered ones are also suffering. The bigger industrial units which were working round the clock were forced to forego the work and close down one shift. The hon. Minister said that those textile mills

and engineering units which were working two shifts only will not be affected. I have all regard for him, but I pity his ignorance. All the textile mills in the country are working round the clock and their shifts are from 6 A.M. to 2 P.M., 2 P.M. to 10 P.M. and from 10 P.M. to 6 A.M. That is how the textile mills are working. There are certain continuous process factories like rayon, engineering units and also some factories in defence, which are working round the clock. In Kanpur itself, all the textile mills had to close one shift, rendering about 25,000 regular workers as idle, and they will be getting only half the wages, whereas the temporary workers and substitutes will not get anything, and they will be forced to sit idle and face unemployment on the streets. He said that the defence units will get it. But I am told the power crisis has to be shared by everyone. In Kanpur, there are four defence factories and all of them have been threatened with power cut. If the situation does not improve within a week, there is going to be a drastic cut in defence production when the country is needing sophisticated weapons and other equipment for the army.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not that every day we should be having long speeches. It should be exceptional depending on the subject. Please come to your question.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Let me explain the case before he answers. What is the production in UP? Yesterday it was only 650 MW as against the installed capacity of 1499 MW. What is the price at which electricity is given to HINDALCO, the aluminium corporation headed by Birlas? Even the employers have come out openly against it. There is agreement for 25 years with Birlas and they are getting 50 M.W. They have been assured more, as if the Rihand dam was constructed only for Birlas. There is no cut for them whereas textile mills and engineering

[Shri S. M. Banerjee] units are suffering. But for Indian Explosives headed by foreigners and HINDALCO headed by Birlas there is no cut. Birlas get the power at 1.99 paise per unit whereas the cost of production is 8.5 paise, and whereas an ordinary consumer like myself and yourself pays 38 paise per unit. The peasants are supplied power at the rate 18 paise or running the tube-wells for the rabi crop. Only, Birla, the poorest man in the country, gets it at less than 2 paise. I want to know whether it is a fact that UP Government has asked the permission of the Centre to import generators and turbines for producing 400 MW? A solemn promise was made by the Centre but they have not fulfilled it. UP Government was assured by the Centre that they will get some power from Badarpur. What has happened to it? May I know whether it is a fact that the Delegated Legislation Committee of the UP Assembly has unanimously recommended the take-over of HINDALCO because HINDALCO cannot be taken over by the State under the Constitution and only the Centre can take it over? Apart from Kanpur, in Banaras, Moradabad and other places also there is power shortage. What is going to happen to the small-scale industry and to the big factories where thousands of workers are facing starvation?

Let him talk to the Irrigation Minister of Uttar Pradesh. . .

MR. SPEAKER: He should conclude now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I have not taken even ten minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: It was decided in the BAC that the Calling Attention should be over in half an hour.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: If the situation is going to deteriorate, we are not going to take it lying down.

Not only the agriculturists and workers but even the trade chambers have come out against this cut, blaming both the Central and State Governments. Unless the Minister goes there and tries to solve the problem, there is going to be unprecedented labour trouble. This is a man-made problem, created by the powerful government of the State. We are not going to take it lying down.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): It is true that in U.P. and many other parts of the country there is shortage of power. There is a slight improvement at the moment. As mentioned in the statement by my colleague, the shortage is in two respects—one is energy and the other its peak power. The shortage of energy is 3.3 million units a day and out of that, thanks to the Bihar and Madhya Pradesh Government, they are getting about 1.1 million units, leaving a deficiency of about 2 million kw. hours per day, which is about 10 per cent of the total power that is available in the State. A shortage of ten per cent of the requirement is not considered a very big one. It can be managed by the electrical system by imposing a ten per cent cut.

Here the main difficulty is during the peak period when they require an extra power of 400 mw. Now agricultural pumping is done throughout the day, all the 24 hours. They find that from the 30th November they have to cut it down by six hours a day. The difficulty is not the shortage of energy as such but shortage during peak period, especially between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. At that time they cannot meet the whole load. Therefore, they propose to cut it down during that period both for agriculture as well as industry.

Coming to the question of textile mills, it is true that in Kanpur there are ten textile mills and the total demand is 26 MW. Each textile mill is drawing more than 1 mw power.

Here also they are given two shifts. For these two shifts the supply is enough. I understand from the U.P. Electricity Board Chairman that they are prepared to allow the machines to be run for seven days a week. So, instead of cutting down supply on a holiday, they are prepared to run it on a Sunday also.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: We are not prepared to work on holidays. You have created this situation.

DR. K. L. RAO: As an incentive, the Electricity Board has said that while the cut in the day time will be 25 per cent, it will be only 12½ per cent in the night. In an emergency like this, when there is shortage of power we have to do this.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: What is the emergency? This is not an emergency. This is deliberate negligence on the part of both the governments.

DR. K. L. RAO: As I pointed out in a statement which I laid on the Table earlier, this year there is an emergency. The production of hydro-power has come down very considerably. The Rihand project, which stores up water, now has only half the normal quota of water. Apart from this, there are drought conditions. The shortage in the hydel sector has affected us very much. In fact, the position in U.P. is better as compared to other States. For the rest of the months the position will be more difficult. When the obra unit comes up in January, it will give considerable relief. It has been agreed that when the Badarpur unit comes up, one-third of the generation would be given to U.P.

So far as the taking over of Hindal Company is concerned, I do not know anything about the subject.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: What about the U. P. Government's request to import 400 MW turbine generators?

DR. K. L. RAO: The Uttar Pradesh Government wanted to import 400 MW generators to make up the shortage of power, not the present shortage. There is a shortage of power in U.P. and there is more demand. From the demand point of view, the load in U. P. is going high up. Therefore, they wanted that the power system must be increased by 400 MW by importing generators to meet their demand. That is under discussion with the Government of India.

श्री सरजू पाण्डे (गाजीपुर) :

अध्यक्ष जी, मेरे सामने एक अखबार है जिस में चैम्बर के प्रेसिडेंट श्री गौरिहरि सिंघानिया का स्टेटमेंट है। उन्होंने कहा है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में न केवल उद्योग ही बन्द हुए हैं बल्कि ला-एण्ड ब्रांडर सिंचूशन पैदा हो गई है। अभी मंत्री महोदय ने सिर्फ 6 घन्टे के कट की बात कही है, जबकि वहां ट्यूबवैल्ज बन्द हैं, पीने का पानी नहीं है, फसलें सूख रहीं हैं। अभी मेरे साथो बनर्जी साहब ने बताया कि वहां बिड़ला को उत्पादन खर्च से भी कम कीमत पर बिजली दी जा रही है, सारे लोगों के लिए बिजली-कट इम्पोज किया जा रहा है, जबकि उन को बिजली दी जा रही है। मैं ग्राम से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अनाज पहले पैदा करना जरूरी है या एनूमिनियम पैदा करना जरूरी है। मंत्री महोदय ऐसा सुझाव क्यों नहीं देते हैं कि बिड़ला की फैक्ट्री की पावर कट की जाय और ट्यूब-वैल्ज और दूसरे कारखाने जो बन्द हो रहे हैं उन को चालू रखा जायें। आज वहां पूरे प्रदेश में अजीब हालत पैदा हो रही है। इस बीच में क्या सरकार कुछ ऐसा विचार कर रही है, जिस प्रकार से दूसरे प्रदेशों में जैसे बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश में बिजली

[श्री सरजू पाण्डेय]

के कुछ समझते हुए हैं कि दूसरे प्रदेशों से ज्यादा बिजली ली जाये तथा बिड़ला की बिजली को कट किया जाय ? मैं यह भी उत्तर चाहता हूँ कि उस के नेशनलाइजेशन का प्रश्न जो केन्द्र सरकार के बिचाराधीन है, उस पर मंत्री जी की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

DR. K. L. RAO: As I submitted earlier, at the moment, for tubewells, the power is supplied for all the 24 hours. There is no cut. This is the information I have got from the Chairman, U.P. Electricity Board. I verified it from the Chairman one hour before I came here. I had a talk with him. According to the Government of U.P., there is no cut for tubewells. In fact, their load is as much as 365 MW. That is a very heavy load. They are supplying power for all the 24 hours. But in order to get over the trouble, they want to reduce it from 30th November, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., that is, for six hours. They will supply power for 18 hours and they will have a cut for six hours in the agricultural sector.

About the Nangal Fertiliser factory, it is a continuous process and we cannot shut down. . .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Why don't you increase the price?

DR. K. L. RAO: I do not yield to the hon. Member. The product produced there is aluminium and that is most essential for electricity itself, for electrical wires and electrical industries. Aluminium is very much required. In fact, there is a shortage. It is very important industry.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore), Sir, the Chairman of the U.P. Electricity Board who has just in this power shortage can be alleviated

that tubewells have not been affected by the power cut—I do not know whether it is correct or not—the same gentleman is reported in the press having made an allegation—I quote:

“For the past 10 months, the Union Ministry of Industrial Development has not cleared the 400 MW project although five foreign firms have expressed willingness to start thermal plants. If the project was immediately cleared, the power situation could improve by 1975.”

This is one thing. Of course, he made a brief reference to this a little while ago. Here is a public allegation being made by the Chairman of the U.P. Electricity Board. So, I am seeking further information and clarification from Dr. K. L. Rao on this particular point.

There is another item of news appearing in the U.P. press which says:

“The Harduaganj and Panki power stations are virtually at a stand-still due to various reasons. Machines generating nearly 350 MW of power are lying in the open for servicing overhauling and various sorts of repairs.

“The truth lies in the inefficiency of the U.P. Government and the U.P. Electricity Board to get the machines serviced and repaired in proper time.”

I would like to know from him whether he has any information about this serious allegation about the non-commissioning of Harduaganj and Panki power stations because of the failure to service and repair these machines. If that is a fact, then surely, in the face of a crisis like this, the Centre has also got some duty to perform. I want to know whether they have offered any help or whether they are willing to take steps to see that these machines are put back into operation, so that this power shortage can be alleviated.

DR. K. L. RAO: As I have submitted earlier, the U.P. Government wants the import of 400 megawatt machines in order to reduce the delay in commissioning, in order to reduce the delay in production of power. This subject has been under consideration and no final decision has been made. Evidently, this is because we are committed to the policy of indigenous manufacture; we want to get as many machines manufactured in the country as possible. In the context of that, the possibility of manufacturing in the country is being examined, and no final decision has been made on that.

With regard to the other questions, in Harduaganj two units of 55 megawatts of power, each, have gone out of order one week back. Those machines were made in India; they are indigenous machines. Urgent steps have been taken to see that they are repaired; the experts have been sent, the repair staff have been sent. The Chairman, Electricity Board, tells me that next week it will be possible to get them repaired. We are hoping that those two machines will come back commissioned next week.

About Panki, in one of the units a blade has got broken and that will take some time to be repaired.

12.28 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (SEVENTH AMENDMENT) RULES, 1972

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): On behalf of Shri H. N. Bahuguna, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1161 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1972, under sub-section (5) of

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section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3752/72].

PART REPORTS OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL IN RESPECT OF HINDUSTAN MACHINE TOOLS LTD., FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS, TRAVANCORE LTD. ETC.,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following parts of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1969-70—Union Government (Commercial), under article 151(1) of the Constitution:—

Part IX—Appraisal of the working of the Hindustan Machine Tools Limited. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3753/72].

Part X—Appraisal of the working of the Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore Limited. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3754/72].

Part XII—Individual irregularities noticed in the Undertakings not taken up for comprehensive appraisal by the Audit Board and a resume of the Reports of the Company Auditors. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3755/72].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ALL INDIA SERVICES ACT, 1951.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-