

Mills, (ii) Assam Co-operative Jute Mills, (iii) Hind Cycle factory, (iv) Kamrup Papers Mills Ltd. and (v) Assam Co-operative Sugar Mills have been closed down for indefinite period; and

(b) what steps have been taken by the Central Government to reopen these units to save thousands of workers from unemployment and starvation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). The information which has been called from Government of Assam will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Identity cards for voters

714. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Election Commission has been planning to drop the scheme for issuing identity cards to voters due to paucity of funds; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide the necessary funds to the Election Commission to enable it to carry on the scheme in the whole country during the next General Election?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Screening of "Yes Minister" serial from Delhi Doordarshan

715. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have stopped the screening of "Yes Minister" serial from Delhi Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):

(a) and (b) Doordarshan had purchased 13 episodes of "Yes Minister" series-I and II from the British Broadcasting Corporation Enterprises, London, which have already been telecast from Doordarshan Kendras, Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta. Now the same series are being telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Madras. Thereafter, these will be telecast from Doordarshan Kendras Lucknow, Srinagar and Jalandhar.

Doordarshan have already placed order for the "Yes Minister" series III and IV to the BBC Enterprises of which series III has since been received. Episodes of series III will be scheduled for telecast.

Programmes in various languages from A. I. R. and T.V. Centre in Delhi

716. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) how much of time is allotted for programmes in various languages of the States of N F. region in broadcasts from All India Radio and telecasts from Delhi Doordarshan every week; and

(b) what is the percentage of such programmes in proportion to other programmes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to broadcasts in the languages spoken in the States in the North Eastern Region.

Generally, such programmes would be originated from the local stations only. The transmissions by AIR, Delhi and by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi do not aim to cover those states. Therefore, there is no regular or fixed time or period for such broadcasts from Delhi. As such, percentage of such programmes to the total programmes would not convey any meaningful information.

Delhi Station of All India Radio under its programme concerning regions other than those in its service area for catering to the requirements of the local population, broadcasts Assamese music for about 20 minutes per week.

In addition, so is cultural and economic issues concerning all regions including the North Eastern Region are included in the following monthly national programmes broadcast from AIR, Delhi:

(a) National Programme of Regional (Folk/light) Music;

(b) Main Aun Meri Dharti (Feature Programme)

So far as Doordarshan is concerned, during the period April to December, 1983, five items in Assamese and one item in Manipuri had been telecast.

Power requirements of Assam

717. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what would be the power requirements of Assam State by the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) what is the present capacity of each of the existing thermal power stations in the State; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up new thermal power stations in Assam during the remaining period of the Sixth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN). (a) The energy requirement of Assam during 1984-85 is expected to be 1336 MU and peak demand during the same period is expected to be 263 MW.

(b) The present installed generating capacity of thermal power stations in Assam is 327.5 MW as per details given below:—

Bongaigaon TPS	120 MW
Chandrapur TPS	30 MW

Namrup TPS 111.5 MW

Lakwa Gas Turbines 45 MW

Mobile Gas Turbines 21 MW

In addition, diesel sets aggregating to 5 MW (derated) capacity are also operating.

(c) Two units of 60 MW at Bongaigaon thermal power station, one unit of 22 MW at Namrup thermal power station waste heat project and one unit of 15MW at Lakwa Gas Turbine Extension are targeted to be commissioned by the end of the 6th Plan.

Proposal to set up LPG Bottling Plant

718. SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Oil Corporation proposes to set up L.P.G. bottling plant at a cost of Rs. 75 crores; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) Under LPG Phase III marketing programme, Indian Oil Corporation plans to set up 6 New LPG bottling plants and expand 5 existing bottling plants at an estimated cost of Rs. 87.55 crores.

Vacancies of Judges in Madras High Court

719. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Judges in the Madras High Court;

(b) the dates on which these vacancies occurred; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to fill up these vacancies?