

DAVP Branch in Calcutta

1469. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 113 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st February, 1983 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a site for opening a branch office of D.A.V.P. in Calcutta was selected and approved; and

(b) whether Government propose to open branch office of D.A.V.P. both in Calcutta and Gauhati?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. A Regional Office of Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity is being set up at Gauhati only.

Chain newspaper groups

1470. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of chain newspaper groups in the country;

(b) what are the names of business houses which control these papers;

(c) what is the total bank over-draft facility enjoyed by each group;

(d) whether Government propose to extend similar facilities to small and medium newspaper owners also; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Creation of National and Regional Power Grids

1471. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in regard to the creation of a National Power Grid;

(b) the estimated capital outlay involved and whether it will mature partially in the next Plan;

(c) whether the system envisages linking of regional grids with the National Grid, if so, what is the possible location of the National Grid and its linkage with the regional grids; and

(d) whether Rajasthan which is suffering from acute shortage of power resulting in huge industrial and agricultural production loss will be considered for locating a regional grid to be fed by the National Grid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (d) Government of India have accepted in principle, the need for development of a Centrally owned National Power Grid. However, electricity being a Concurrent subject, the mechanics of creating the Grid are being worked out in consultation with the State Governments, State Electricity Boards, through a continuous dialogue.

While the National Power Grid, as envisaged, will encompass the entire country, including Rajasthan, complete details are yet to be worked out.

Mini-Hydro Electric Projects

1472. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mini-hydro-electric projects proposed to be established in the country during the year 1983-84;

(b) the places indentified for this purpose;

(c) when was the feasibility report prepared; and