

However, in Korba Super Thermal Power Project Stage-III (500 MW) and Farakka Super Thermal Power Project Stage-III (500 MW), NTPC has proposed that 65% and 63% of the power generated respectively from these plants may be sold outside long term PPA. The matter is under consideration of the Government of India. In two other hydro projects, NTPC have decided to convert them into regional power projects although they had earlier proposed selling the entire power outside long term PPA.

24 hour channel for Assam

*7. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for 24 hour channel exclusively for regional programmes of Assam in Guwahati Doordarshan under D.D. Network;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is aware that the programme producers, directors, technicians and artists of Assam are not getting good opportunity to use their talent as the slots in NE channels are not sufficient; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Government has no proposal for 24 hour channel exclusively for regional programmes of Assam as there is already a 24 hour channel namely, D.D. North-East at Guwahati which telecasts programmes in Assamese as well as in other languages of North-Eastern States.

Prasar Bharati has informed that the Producers, Directors, Technicians and Artists of the region of Assam are getting ample opportunities for showcasing their talent in the regional programme service of Doordarshan Kendra, Guwahati daily from 8.30 AM to 9.00 AM, from 5.30 PM to 8.00 PM from Monday to Friday, from 3.00 PM to 8.00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, in addition to the slots in the 24 hour North East Satellite Channel.

Prasar Bharati has also informed that programmes from the specific regions in Assam for catering to the needs of Technicians and Artists etc. are telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Dibrugarh and Silchar from 5.30 PM to 8.00 PM from Monday to Saturday and from Monday to Friday respectively.

Adherence to mining laws

*8. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state: