

Transmitter being set up at Kurseong during the Sixth Plan period.

400 KV Transmission Line for Eastern Region

301. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 400 KV transmission line has been installed from Singrauli to Kanpur—a distance of more than 400 miles, while no comparable line has been drawn to take power to the Eastern Region ; and

(b) if so, what is the reason ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It is a fact that a 400 KV 450 Km long transmission line has been installed between Singrauli and Kanpur as an integral part of the associated transmission system of the Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station. Since this station has been established to meet the requirement of power of States in the northern region, the question of establishing any comparable line to take power from this station to the eastern region does not arise.

Closing down of Iron Ore Mines in Barajmada Region of Bihar and Orissa Rendering 9000 Tribals Jobless

302. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the authorities have decided to close down 50 iron-ore mines in the tribal dominated Barajmada region of Bihar and Orissa which will render about 9000 tribal workers jobless ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such a closure ; and

(c) whether there is no other alternative to the said proposed closure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHA-

BILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) : (a) to (c). The Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation gave a notice to the Eastern Zone Mining Association in April, 1983, for drastic cut in the procurement of iron ore from the Eastern region due to world-wide recession in steel industry, heavy reduction of demand from foreign buyers and non-increase of demand from indigenous steel plants. It had been reported that about 5000 tribal workers employed directly and another 4000 indirectly would be rendered unemployed. In order to avoid this, meetings have been held in the Ministry of Commerce and Department of Labour and *inter-alia* it was decided :

(i) MMTC could continue procurement for another three months commencing from 1.7.83 ;

(ii) The Steel Ministry would undertake a detailed technical examination of the possibility of utilising iron ore produced from Eastern region by Vizag Steel Plant and also of diverting demand of domestic steel plants to this sector ; and

(iii) As far as possible further development of captive mines may not be undertaken before fully utilising the capacity of iron ore mines in the Eastern sector.

Proposal to Root out the 'Video Film Piracy'

303. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for a legislation to root out 'video film piracy' which has adversely affected the Indian film industry ;

(b) whether Government have received any recommendations in this respect from the National Film Development Corporation and the film producers bodies, and if so, details of the recommendations ;

(c) the details of the general features of the proposed legislation ; and

(d) the time by which the proposed