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title: Need to take steps to revive 3 paper mills of Assam and remove the corrupt management for causing loss to the mills.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): Thank you, Sir, for allowing me to speak on a very important topic of Assam concerning three paper mills. There are three paper mills in Assam – Ashok Paper Mills in Goalpara district; Cacher Paper Mills in Barak Valley; and Noah Paper Mills in Morigaon district. Ashok Paper Mills with about 2,500 bighas of land and other paraphernalia, etc. has been closed for long, and the same could not be revived due to corrupt practices by the management and the then Assam Government and also the then Central Government.

The Cacher Paper Mills is closed. Its capacity of production per day was 300 metric tonnes. Noah Paper Mills with a capacity of 250 lakh metric tonnes is also going to be closed due to corrupt management. Management is thoroughly corrupt. They have mismanaged; they have sold out the interests of the mills; they have also sold out the interests of the workers and others related to the mills. The Government of India should take immediate steps to revive the mills. There is no dearth of raw materials. Raw materials is there. Bamboo is produced in Assam in huge quantity. Yet, the mills could not be run properly because the management inducted by the previous UPA Government is very corrupt. They are looking after their own interests and the interests of the Managing Director, Chairman, and others. They should be removed. New management consisting of people with clean image should be brought in and the mills should be saved from dying from the deathbed and the workers and the producers of bamboo, the rural people and the rural economy can be saved. In the areas, we have Kendriya Vidyalayas, staff quarters and other infrastructure. Yet, the Government of India has not taken any interests.

Even a memorandum was submitted to the hon. Minister for Heavy Industry. I would request the Government of India to take immediate steps to remove the corrupt management and institute an enquiry and punish those people responsible for causing loss to the mills.