

### **Holding of Election on Sundays**

870. SHRI P. J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of votes polled in Kerala for the Lok Sabha election on January 6, 1980 was less than that recorded for the Kerala Assembly election held on January 21, 1980;

(b) if so, whether it is due to the fact that the date on which the Lok Sabha election was held was a Sunday (January 6, 1980);

(c) whether the Government are aware of the strong feelings expressed by the people, specially the minority communities, against holding elections on Sundays; and

(d) whether Government propose to take steps to see that in future no elections are held on Sundays?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The percentage of votes polled in the assembly constituencies comprised within the 9 parliamentary constituencies in the State of Kerala where poll was taken on the 21st January, 1980 was 72.74 per cent as against 62.15 per cent in the 9 parliamentary constituencies where poll was taken on the 6th January, 1980.

(b) The reasons for the lower percentage of polling at the parliamentary elections have not been gone into so far by the Election Commission.

(c) Some representations were received in the Election Commission from Kerala at the time of last general elections to Lok Sabha against the date of poll being fixed on Sunday, the 6th January, 1980 on the ground that Sunday is the day of worship for the Christians.

(d) The Election Commission is of the opinion that it may not be possible to give categorical assurance that date

of poll will not be fixed on Sundays in future but all the same that it will keep in view the suggestion against the date of poll being fixed on a Sunday.

### **Proposal for making Power Generation and Distribution a Central Subject**

871. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have a proposal under consideration to make electricity generation and distribution a Central subject; and

(b) if it is so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) and (b). Electricity is a Concurrent subject under the Constitution and there is no proposal at present to make electricity generation and distribution a wholly central subject. Keeping in view the need, however, to develop the power sector in the most optimal manner to meet the demand for electricity for economic development, the structure of the power supply industry is reviewed from time to time. It has been considered necessary to augment Central generation and increase assistance for rural electrification for accelerated growth of the economy.

### **Preparation of Voters List in Assam**

872. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is highly disturbed condition over the preparation of voters' list in Assam;

(b) if so, whether Government have decided that 25th March, 1971 as the date time for evacuees from Bangladesh to be considered as citizens of India and that people whose names