

(b) The relay television transmitter at Panaji will be of 10 KW power providing a service range of 75 kms. covering an area of 10,000 sq. km. and 1284 villages. The total population expected to be covered is 18.86 lakhs comprising 3.91 lakhs urban and 14.95 lakhs rural population. The project has been taken up for implementation and is expected to be commissioned in 1983.

Total Capacity of Power Generation in North Bengal

1023. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total capacity of power generation in North Bengal as on 31st March, 1980 by hydel, thermal (by Coal and Oil) and the actual generation in 1979-80;

(b) the details of requirement of power in North Bengal for irrigation, lighting, and industries;

(c) whether he is aware that many budding industries in North Bengal have to be closed down due to the non-supply of power; and

(d) if so, steps taken to meet the power requirement of North Bengal

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The installed capacity of North Bengal as on 31-3-80 is as follows:

Jaldhaka (Hydro) 27 MW

Gas Turbine at Siliguri 20 MW

In addition, there are some small diesel sets and micro hydro totalling about 23 MW capacity. The energy generation during 1979-80 is 65.3 MU.

(b) to (d). The total requirement of North Bengal is about 80 MW as against its present availability of about 60 MW as under:—

Jaldhaka	8 MW
Small micro hydro & diesels	15 MW
Gas Turbine	20 MW
Assistance from Bihar	17 MW
	<hr/>
	60 MW

The tea gardens and other organisations having own captive power are generally meeting their requirement during peak hours so that the limited availability may be utilised for other purposes. The Government of West Bengal Energy Control Order is not in force in five North Bengal Districts—Malda, West Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar and Darjeeling and the shortage is generally met by load shedding.

At present, North Bengal is connected to South Bengal through 66 kv line only. The 132 kv line (Malda Raiganj) is expected to be commissioned shortly which may improve the availability in North Bengal. Farakka Super-Thermal Plant and Raman Hydro-Electric Project, when completed will meet the requirements of North-Bengal.

Producers in A.I.R.

1024. SHRI T. S. NEGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 864 on the 26th April, 1978 regarding Appointment of Producers for various languages in A. I. R, and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has now fixed up the strength of the Producers in All India Radio, if so, what criteria have been adopted to fix up the strength of this cadre;

(b) whether it is a fact that experts are not being appointed at regional station to look after the programme broadcasts in various dialects;

(c) how many producers are working in all the stations of All India Radio; and

(d) what are the future plans of Government to appoint Producers at various stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.