

**Assam Problem**

336. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

SHRI A. T. PATIL:

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

SHRI D. P. JADEJA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final settlement in regard to the Assam problem has been reached;

(b) if so, whether many parties and including the former Prime Minister had put forward their proposals before the Prime Minister for its settlement;

(c) if so, whether Government are agreeable to the proposal;

(d) whether Assam agitators have agreed to these proposals; and

(e) if not, by what time a final agreement is likely to be reached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) to (e). Suggestions and proposals on foreigners' issue in Assam have been received from several quarters. Three meetings have been held with Leaders of Opposition in Parliament and the issue has also been discussed individually with some leaders. The former Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai met Home Minister on the 10th February, 1981 but did not put forward any specific proposal.

Several rounds of discussions have been held with All Assam Students Union and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad. There is no evidence that agitators have given up their inflexible

stand. Government on their part are anxious to find an early solution through discussions.

**Closure of Industries due to Power Shortage**

337. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether many industries had to be closed down in many States during the month of January, 1981 due to power shortage in the country;

(b) if so, whether in Rajasthan and Karnataka, industries were affected due to power shortage;

(c) whether this has resulted in slow growth of industrial production in the country; and

(d) if so, to what extent the industrial production has suffered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) The All-India figures of power generation during January, 1981, compared to January, 1980 showed an increase of 9 per cent in total generation. However, despite this, due to increased power requirements for agriculture and for industry, some restrictions during peak periods, as also cuts ranging from 10 per cent and upwards have had to be imposed in some States. It would not be, however, correct to say that many industries had to be closed down in January, 1981, though they were put on restricted working.

(b) In Rajasthan, excepting for water works, cold storages, milk-chilling plants and small industries (upto 25 H. P.), other industries (and agriculture) were put on restricted power supply from 16th January, 1981, with industrial consumers above 125 H. P. being subject to 100 per cent cut. In Karnataka, a limited power cut was imposed on 1-12-80 but this has not substantially affected industrial production in Karnataka according to the State Government.