

>

Title : Need for taking over of Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station by NTPC.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (KOKRAJHAR): Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS), Salakati in Kokrajhar District within Bodoland territory (Assam) is a Rs. 1,200 crore worth National Capital Asset – like power generating industrial unit. It was set up in the 1980s with a power generating capacity of $4 \times 60 = 240$ megawatts at a tribal-dominated place called Salakati in Kokrajhar District with the noble objective target of catalysing the pace of development in all spheres within the most backward and deprived tribal area in lower Assam. The respective units of the project were commissioned at different points of time.

Unit – I was commissioned in March, 1981; Unit – II was commissioned in April, 1982; Unit – III was commissioned in May, 1985 and Unit – IV was commissioned in June, 1986. Since the inception, all the four Units were running very smoothly until their closure in the 1990s.

Despite various appeals and demands made by the local people repeatedly over the past few years asking both the State Government of Assam and the ASEB to take appropriate steps for the revival and running of the same power generating project, nothing tangible has been done so far in this regard.

I urge upon the Union Government of India to take appropriate steps and

effective follow-up actions to help issue necessary official order directing both the Ministry of Power and the NTPC to take over the BTPS at the earliest possible and thereby save Rs. 1,200 crore worth national capital asset without any further delay in the greater public interest.

Treated as laid on the Table.

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Legislative Business, Item No. 14.

12.48 hrs.