

Title: Reported merger of BRPL with IOCL.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (DIBRUGARH): Respected Chairman, Sir, I rise to raise a very important issue, that is, the merger of BRPL with IOCL in Assam.

Sir, as you know Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited came into existence in 1974. The Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited was the third refinery in the State, which was the fruit of a long-drawn movement of the people of Assam under the leadership of All-Assam Students' Union in the mid sixties.

It is on the 5th of December, 1969, the then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi announced in the Parliament about the decision of setting up of a refinery-cum-petrochemicals complex in Assam. Sir, the objectives behind setting up of Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited at Dhaligaon were many, namely: (i) to connect this under-developed part of the State with the rest of the country through industrial activities, (ii) to pave way for creating an industrial cluster in this part of the State through the downstream ancillary industries based on the refinery and petrochemicals products of BRPL, (iii) to generate direct and indirect employment for poor unemployed people of the region and (iv) thus help develop the overall and ever all discriminated, deprived, neglected, and backward as well as poor Bodo tribals, Rajabanshis and other ethnic people of the Lower Assam through industrialization.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. What is your demand?

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Sir, Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited is going through a lot of ...(*Interruptions*) I am coming down to the points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand?

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : My main point is to have the total merger of BRPL with IOCL as demanded by the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Employees' Union and also North-East MPs Forum and all such important like minded organizations, to protect the interests of the BRPL. That is the only option left but the entire process, after taking a lot of decisions at different levels, has been delayed due to some vested interests, the group which is lobbying against the merger. That is why, it is my humble submission, through you, to the Government, particularly to the concerned Minister that as per their decision they should immediately convert the decision into action and implement like they have promised and protect the interests of Bongaigaon Refinery. Thank you, Sir[[MSOffice67](#)].