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Title: Need to reopen the Cachar Paper Mill, a unit of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited at Panchgram, Assam.

**SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS (KARIMGANJ):** Cachar Paper Mill, a unit of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited at Panchgram, Assam was closed on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 due to shortage of working capital. A meeting with the Minister of Heavy Industries and the other high officials was held in December 2015 to save and restart the mill again. As per decision of the meeting, one Joint Secretary visited the Cachar Paper Mill on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and he submitted a detailed report with some suggestions to the authority to revive the profit making industry again. But it is a matter of great concern that the mill has not started again, though there is a huge stock of bamboo amounting to Rupees 30 crores, coal amounting to Rupees 8.5 crores and other materials lying in the mill and some of these will be destroyed if the mill is not started immediately. So many casual labours and other dependent on the mill are facing hardship to maintain their daily need. An agitation programme was organized in front of the mill on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016 by the labour unions of the mill with the help of the other NGOs with a demand for reopening of the mill immediately.

Considering the above situation, I request the Union Minister of Heavy Industries to take immediate steps to reopen the mill.

**1406 hours**