

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:163

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2007

POWER SHORTAGE

Bhagora Shri Mahavir;Prasad Shri Hari Kewal

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several State Governments are reeling under huge power shortage and heavy load shedding;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the names of power surplus and power deficit States in the country as on date ;
- (d) whether there is any criteria to transfer surplus power to power-deficit States ;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the initiatives taken/being taken by the Government to improve the power situation in the country particularly in the National Capital Region keeping in view the forthcoming Commonwealth Games during 2010 ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (f) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 163 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 09.03.2007 REGARDING POWER SHORTAGE.

(a) : There is overall shortage of power in the country. The shortages vary from State to State and season to season, as well as times of day depending on the demand and supply of power. Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a State is the responsibility of the respective State Governments which make arrangements for supply of power to various categories of consumers/areas in the State. Load shedding and power cuts are resorted to by the respective State depending on demand of power and its availability and their priorities for distribution. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State by way of addition to generation capacity and establishment of bulk high voltage transmission system in the Central Sector through Central Public Sector Undertakings. State-wise power supply position during April – February, 2007 is annexed.

(b) : The main reasons for shortage of power are as under :

- (i) Demand for power in the States outstripping the growth in their generation and capacity addition.
- (ii) Low Plant Load Factor of some of the thermal generating units, mostly in the State Sector.
- (iii) Inadequate availability of gas.
- (iv) High Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses including theft of electricity.
- (v) Poor financial position of State Utilities making it difficult for them to raise the resources necessary for making required investments to create adequate generation, transmission and distribution system.

The following measures/steps have been taken/are being taken by the Government to improve power supply position in the country:

Short-term :

- (i) Improving Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing plants.
- (ii) Rigorous monitoring of production, transportation and stocking of coal at all major coal based plants in the country to ensure adequate availability of fuel to meet the improved PLF of coal stations. Import of coal to bridge constraints in production of domestic coal.

- (iii) Tapping of surplus power from captive power plants.
- (iv) Utilization of unutilized capacity of gas based stations on liquid fuel as well as purchase of gas from spot market.
- (v) Strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission system in States under Accelerated Power Development Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards reduction of Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses.
- (vi) Optimum utilization of available power by strengthening of inter-state and inter-regional transmission capacity.
- (vii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.
- (viii) Promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.
- (ix) `Partnership in Excellence` Programme starting with adoption of better operation and maintenance (O&M) practices to enable enhancement of Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing thermal power stations through tie-up with well performing power utilities as a pre-cursor to major renovation and modernization/life extension.
- (x) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units with interest subsidy on loans by the Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation under `Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP).

Long-term :

- (i) Creation of a National Grid for optimum utilization of generation capacity through inter-regional transfer of power.
 - (ii) Launching of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for coordinated development of hydro sector.
 - (iii) Identification of sites for thermal capacity over 1,00,000 MW.
 - (iv) Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation have mobilized themselves to see that good generation projects are not hampered for lack of funds.
 - (v) Rigorous monitoring of capacity addition of the on-going generation projects.
 - (vi) Advance planning of generation capacity addition projects for the 11th Five Year Plan and 12th Five Year Plan.
 - (vii) Implementation of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW each to achieve benefit of economy of scale.
 - (viii) Procurement of hydro-electric power from Bhutan.
- (c) : No state in the country is surplus in power on a sustained basis. However, some states have surplus power during certain hours (particularly during off-peak hours) of the day or have seasonal surpluses .
- (d)&(e) :The Electricity Act, 2003 has enabling provision for transfer/sale of power including surplus power from one state to another state. The Act provides for non- discriminatory open access to the transmission system of central/state transmission utility for use by any licensee, generating company and any consumer as and when such open access is provided by the Central/State Commission on payment of transmission charges. The states having surplus power sell the same to other states directly or through traders subject to availability of transmission corridor. The regulations for open access in inter- state transmission system have been framed by CERC.
- (f) :The initiatives taken/being taken by the Government for improving the power situation in the country have been indicated in reply to part (b) of the question.

Government has taken necessary steps for providing electricity to National Capital Region keeping in view the forthcoming Commonwealth Games in 2010 and has mobilized NTPC, DVC and assistance from Government of Haryana. Memoranda of Understanding were signed on 24th August, 2006, among Government of Delhi, Government of Haryana, NTPC and DVC for developing new power projects and expanding the existing power plants. Six projects, namely, Mejia Expansion (1000 MW), Koderma (2x500 MW), Bokaro Expansion (500 MW), Dadri-II Expansion (2x490 MW), Badarpur Expansion (2x500 MW) and Jhajjar (3x500 MW) have been identified for meeting the power requirement of NCR of Delhi for Commonwealth Games and beyond. In pursuance of decision taken in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries on 26th August, 2006, a high level monitoring committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India comprising Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi, Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, Chairman, Central Electricity Authority, CMD, NTPC, Chairman, DVC and representatives of Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Environment & Forests, has been set up to monitor various aspects of implementation of new power projects for Delhi, to meet the power demand for Commonwealth Games, 2010. Eight meetings have been held in this context so far wherein various milestones for these projects have been decided so as to make power available from them during the Commonwealth games. In addition, power would also be available to Delhi from existing units of DVC, expansion units of Chandrapur TPS of DVC, Central Sector Projects likely to be commissioned during the 11th Plan as well as additional generation capacity proposed to be commissioned in Delhi.