

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1897
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2007
INVESTMENT ON POWER PROJECTS IN NORTH EAST STATES
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to invest Rs.50,000 crore in North East region of the country to add 5,600 MW power during the Eleventh Plan period as reported in the Business Line dated August 1, 2007;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to prepare a power policy for North East Region of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : The 11th Plan is yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission. However, a capacity addition of 78,755 MW has been tentatively envisaged during the 11th Plan. Out of this, 5,615 MW is expected to be developed in the North Eastern Region (including Sikkim). This comprises of 4,055 MW of Hydro Power and 1,560 MW of Thermal Power. An estimated investment for development of 5,615 MW of generating capacity would be around Rs. 28,000 crores. A matching investment is expected to ensue for strengthening / developing the corresponding transmission and distribution networks.

(d) & (e) : At present there is no separate power policy for North Eastern Region of the country. However, Government of India had announced in August 1998, a policy on hydro power development incorporating several steps and measures. The hydro Policy among others lays emphasis on basin wise development, evolving consensus on inter state issues, mitigation of geological risks, simplified procedure for transfer of clearances, promoting joint venture arrangements etc. Subsequently, National Electricity Policy was announced by Government in February, 2005, which, among others, lays emphasis on harnessing hydro potential speedily to facilitate economic development of States, particularly North-Eastern States, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.