

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1934

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016

Shortage of Power

Shetty Shri Gopal Chinayya

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power sector has become a matter of serious concern according to an assessment carried out by the Planning Commission, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has identified the major obstacles to the development of power sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER,
COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) : The erstwhile Planning Commission was publishing Annual Report on the Working of State Power Utilities & Electricity Departments. The last such Report was published in 2013-14, wherein no such result like 'power sector has become a matter of serious concern' has been derived.

(b) & (c) : There are no major obstacles to the development of the power sector. However, there are some issues being faced in implementation of power generation and transmission projects relating to delay in land acquisition, environment and forest issues, rehabilitation & resettlement issues, natural calamities, law and order problems, local issues, contractual problems, delay in material supply, geological uncertainties, extreme weather conditions, difficult terrain and poor accessibility, funds constraints, force majeure risk, inter – state issues, Right of Way (ROW) Problem for transmission lines etc.

Further, in power distribution sector, the main constraints are related to poor financial health of power distribution utilities, high Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses and problem of access to electricity in rural areas.
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The following are the steps taken for monitoring ongoing/delayed power projects for their timely completion:

â€¢ Central Electricity Authority (CEA) monitors the progress of under construction power projects through frequent site visits and interaction with the developers, equipment suppliers and other stakeholders to identify issues critical for commissioning of projects and help in resolving them.

â€¢ Regular reviews are also undertaken by Ministry of Power, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Cabinet Secretariat to identify the constraint areas and facilitate faster resolution of inter-ministerial and other outstanding issues.

â€¢ A Power Project Monitoring Panel (PPMP) has been set up by the Ministry of Power for monitoring of on-going Thermal and Hydro Generation power projects targeted for commissioning during the 12th Plan and beyond along with the associated transmission system.

â€¢ Issues are also raised in PRAGATI, for proactive governance and timely implementation, as and when required.

Further, for development of power distribution sector, the following schemes have been launched:

â€¢ Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) has been launched in order to ensure adequate and quality power in rural areas including access to electricity to villages/habitations and households.

â€¢ Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution net work; metering of distribution transformer/feeders/consumers; and IT enablement of distribution sector in urban areas.

â€¢ National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM) for planning/monitoring and implementation of policies and programmes related to development of smart grid.

â€¢ The scheme for utilization of Power Sector Development Fund (PSDF) for enhancing the grid security.

â€¢ UDAY (Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana) for financial turnaround and operational improvements of Power Distribution Companies.

Further, in order to operationalise the stranded gas based capacity, the Government has launched an innovative scheme to supply Re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) through transparent e-auction.
