

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2753
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2000
SHORTAGE OF POWER IN THE COUNTRY
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has expressed concern over the power shortage and growing trend of dieselisation in the consumer sections;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is power shortage in the country through out the year;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the estimated power shortage during Ninth Plan.
- (e) whether there is slow progress in implementing the power projects; and
- (f) if so, the facts in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER

(SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM)

(a) & (b) : The Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has expressed concern over power shortage and stressed the need for investment in distribution of electricity. Enhancing the quantum of investment in transmission and distribution will improve the power supply position.

(c) & (d) : The actual power supply position between April, 1999 to February, 2000 indicates that the country has a peak deficit of 9364 MW (13.2%) and an energy deficit of 26587 MU (6.1%). The present shortage is mainly on account of greater increase in actual demand compared to availability and also due to low voltage conditions in the grid because of inadequate addition of shunt capacitors. While the Ninth Plan is still going on, the deficits in 1997-98 and 1998-99 were as follows :-

	Peak deficit	Energy deficit
1997-98	11.3%	8.1%
1998-99	13.9%	5.9%

(e) & (f) : The progress in implementation of power projects in the country has been slow due to various reasons like funds constraints including tie up of funds in case of State sector projects and financial closure in case of private sector projects, resettlement and rehabilitation problems, law and order problems, contractual problems, delay in forest and environment clearance, slow progress of contractors, geological surprises, inter-state disputes, flood and other natural calamities etc.