

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5711
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
POWER GENERATION FROM FOSSIL FUELS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to put a cap/limit on power generated from fossil fuel in the country;
- (b) if so, the installed capacity of power generation from fossil fuel is approximately 73,000 MW;
- (c) whether the Government propose to reduce dependence on power from fossil fuel to protect the environment; and
- (d) if so, the details of plans to encourage power generation from hydro sources during the 10th Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (d) : Electricity generation has come to be increasingly dependent on thermal generation on account of availability of abundant coal and lignite reserves as hydro and nuclear generation have not kept pace with the plans due to various reasons. The total installed generation capacity in the country (as on 31st March, 2002) is 1,04,917.5 MW. It comprises 74,429 MW of fossil fuel (lignite, coal, gas and diesel) based generation.

The Government of India is already giving boost to non-fossil fuel based generation. The likely capacity addition through Hydro Power generation in the 10th Plan is 17311 MW. With this hydro capacity addition, the hydro-thermal ratio is envisaged to improve from the present level of 26:74 to 29:71 by the end of 10th Plan. Further, in order to control adverse effects of fossil fuel based generation on environment in the country, the Government is promoting renewable energy sources, encouraging adoption of clean coal technologies like super critical boilers and IGCC, promoting efficient use of energy in various sectors of economy and promoting efficiency improvement in the thermal power plants and reduction of transmission and distribution losses through renovation and modernisation and distribution reforms.