

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1104  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2006  
INADEQUATE GAS SUPPLY TO NTPC PLANTS  
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**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the gas based plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) are not utilizing their installed capacity;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is inadequate supply of gas to the existing plants of NTPC;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the NTPC has decided to undertake the expansion of gas based projects;
- (f) if so, the reasons for the same without ensuring adequate gas supply to the new projects; and
- (g) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (d) : There are six Gas Based Power stations of NTPC, which are running at an average Plant Load Factor (PLF) of 65.6% from 1st April, 2005 till date. The gas requirement for these six NTPC's Gas Based Stations is 17.35 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD) (at 90% PLF) and 15.42 MMSCMD (at 80% PLF) while the linkage from Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas is 13.74 MMSCMD. The actual gas supplies out of the above linkage to NTPC plants for the period from April, 2005 – January, 2006 has been 9.57 MMSCMD. However, the shortfall in gas supply has been met through additional gas tie-up (Panna-Mukta-Tapti gas and Re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) from GAIL, gas from Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC), RLNG from Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited) and use of Naphtha (Liquid Fuel). Out of the additional quantity of 4.2 MMSCMD tied up during 2005-06, average supplies have been about 1.36 MMSCMD taking the total gas supplies to NTPC stations to 10.93 MMSCMD.

(e) & (f) : NTPC plans to take up the following expansion projects of its existing Gas Based Stations for completion in 11th Plan, only after supply of fuel is tied up at reasonable prices/terms and availability of all clearances/approvals including signing of GSPA:-

- Kawas Stage-II - 1300 MW (nominal) capacity in Gujarat.
- Jhanor Gandhar Stage-II - 1300 MW (nominal) capacity in Gujarat.
- Rajiv Gandhi Stage-II 1950 MW (nominal) capacity at Kayamkulam.

(g) : In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of natural gas, Government of India have taken/proposed to be taken the following corrective steps in his regard:-

- Augmenting production of natural gas from the existing gas fields/wells.
- Increasing domestic sources by awarding gas blocks for exploration and

production activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

- Encouraging import of gas in the form of liquefied natural gas and also endeavoring for gas imports through international pipelines projects.