

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1560  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010  
PRIVATE SECTOR POWER PROJECTS  
Punia Shri P.L.

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of power projects under the private sector in the country at present;
- (b) whether performance of these projects is not as per expectation of the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a): As per information received from the Central Electricity Authority, there are 51 power projects (8 hydel and 43 thermal above 25 MW) totalling 15205 MW which are presently in operation in private sector.

(b) & (c): The performance of a generating unit is linked to the type of generation. While the thermal units are meant to be utilized continuously as base load units, hydro units are to be utilized depending on availability of water / reservoir level. Further, the performance of the thermal units also depends on its forced and planned outages, availability of required quality and quantity of fuel, etc. Indicator of performance of hydro generating unit is its availability (excluding the time required for its planned maintenance and attending to forced outages) and actual energy generation vis-À-vis targets.

During the period 2009-10 (April'09 - Jan.2010), the average Plant Load Factor (PLF) of thermal stations (coal/lignite based) under Private Sector Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and Private Sector utilities have been 83.1% and 82.57% respectively which is more than the respective targets PLF of 68.56% and 80.84% respectively. The operating availability of Private Sector hydro stations has been 98.14% during the year 2008-09 (latest).

During the period 2009-10 (April `09 to January `10) against the total programmed generation of 71,506.9 Million Units (MUs), actual generation amounted to 75,564.7 MUs representing an achievement of 105%.

(d): Government has taken the following steps to improve performance of generating projects in the country:-

- (i) Allocation of gas from KG Basin (D6) for the gas based power plants in the country;
- (ii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity;
- (iii) Rigorous monitoring of coal receipts and stocks of coal at all major coal based thermal power plants of the country to ensure adequate availability of fuel to improve PLF;
- (iv) Import of coal to bridge the gap between the requirement and availability of domestic coal;
- (v) Creation of National Grid for optimum utilization of generation capacity and inter-regional transfer of power; and
- (vi) Import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to replace costly Naphtha for gas turbine stations.