

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4723
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010
POWER TO AGRICULTURAL SECTOR
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether power generation is not as per the demand at national level due to which load-shedding has to be resorted to on a large scale in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a small quantity of the electricity generated is made available to agricultural sector due to which the agricultural sector suffers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time schedule of ensuring electricity supply to agricultural sector and the targets fixed for annual increase in power generation in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : The power availability in the country is not adequate to meet the total requirement. During 2009-10, the total energy availability in the country was 7,46,493 Million Unit (MU), against the energy requirement of 8,30,300 MU, which represented shortage of 10.1%.

Supply and distribution of electricity in a State is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/ power utilities and load shedding and power cuts are resorted to by them depending on demand for power and its availability and their priorities for distribution of electricity.

(c) to (e) : As already stated above, supply and distribution of electricity in a State is the responsibility of the respective State Government/ power utility which decides priorities for supply of electricity to different categories of consumers, including agricultural consumers.

The electricity generation targets are fixed on a year to year basis. The electricity generation target for the year 2010-11 has been kept as 830.76 Billion Unit (BU), representing a growth of about 7.7% over the actual generation of 771.17 BU achieved during the year 2009-10. The time schedule to ensure electricity supply to agricultural sector is decided by the concerned State Utilities depending upon requirement by the sector.