GOVERNMENT OF INDIA POWER LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:820 ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010 MONITORING OF POWER PROJECTS Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has urged the State Governments to strictly monitor the power projects to ensure that targets of power generation fixed for the Eleventh Five Year Plan are achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various power projects are not able to utilize their installed capacity and the delayed projects are unlikely to be completed with the stipulated time bound schedule;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : The Government has been regularly requesting State Governments through letters and in review meetings at different levels in the Ministry of Power to monitor and ensure timely completion of power generation projects targeted for commissioning in the 11th Five Year Plan. In January, 2010, Central Electricity Authority held detailed discussion with utilities, equipment suppliers and EPC contractors to draw up a detailed programme with milestones for execution of projects in the remaining period of the Eleventh Plan.

(c) & (d) : As against the Mid-Term Appraisal capacity addition target of 62,374 MW for the 11th Plan, a capacity of 28822 MW has been commissioned till 25th October, 2010. All out efforts are being made to achieve the Mid-Term Appraisal capacity addition target of 62,374 MW for the Eleventh Plan. The performance of power plants is dependent on a number of factors like type/category of plant (hydro, thermal, nuclear), installed capacity, age of the units, design of the units, outages for repairs (forced) and planned maintenance, availability of water, quantity and quality of fuel. While availability of water, during monsoon and non-monsoon season as well as irrigation requirement, influence performance of hydro power stations, the availability of fuel and its quality have a bearing on the performance of thermal power stations. Therefore, the actual performance of some power plants, mostly in the state sector, is at variance with their installed capacity.

(e): Government has initiated several steps to ensure that power generation projects are commissioned as per schedule. These include augmentation of manufacturing capacity of BHEL from 10,000 MW in December, 2007 to 20,000 MW by 2012; periodic review of issues related to supply of power equipment from BHEL by a Group under the chairmanship of Secretary (Heavy Industry); formation of several new joint ventures to manufacture supercritical boilers and turbine-generators for thermal power plants; bulk ordering of 11 units of 660 MW each with supercritical technology with mandatory phased indigenous manufacturing programme to promote indigenous manufacturing; sensitisation of stakeholders to enlarge the vendors base to meet Balance of Plants requirements; launch of `adopt an ITI scheme` to develop skilled manpower; rigorous monitoring of projects at different levels including by Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, Power Project Monitoring Panel and Advisory Group under the chairmanship of Minister of Power; and introduction of web-based monitoring system. In addition, periodical meetings are held with concerned Ministries i.e. Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Ministry of Environment and Forests to sort-out the interministerial issues with regard to availability of fuel and grant of environment and forest clearance to generation projects.

Several measures have been initiated by the Government to bring improvement in generation capacity of poorly performing power stations. These include renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generating units; continuous interaction of CEA with utilities to introduce better O&M practices; and import of coal to bridge the shortfall in domestic availability of coal.