

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3959
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010
POWER PROJECTS AFFECTED BY VISA RESTRICTION
Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether power generation projects using equipment from foreign countries including China have been unable to make progress due to visa restrictions to skilled professionals from these countries;
- (b) if so, the details of the number of projects that have been affected so far along with the reasons for these visa restrictions;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to help power projects affected by visa restriction now; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) : Some power generation projects targeted for commissioning during the 11th Plan using equipment from foreign countries, especially from China, were affected due to the fact that number of foreign nationals involved in implementation of power projects in India were sent back on the ground of violation of visa conditions.

(b) : The details of 11th Plan thermal power generation units using main plant equipment from China and affected on account of aforesaid reasons are given in Annex-I (a) (for commissioned units) and Annex-I (b) (for under- construction units).

Except for Priyadarshni Jurala (6x39 MW) in Andhra Pradesh, no major impact on the commissioning programme of hydro generation projects targeted for commissioning in the Eleventh Plan on account of aforesaid reasons has been reported.

(c) & (d) : Government has introduced a separate visa regime for foreign nationals coming to India for execution of projects in power sector. As per the guidelines, visa would be project-specific and issued only for skilled / highly skilled persons.