

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5267
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010
POWER CUT IN RURAL BACKWARD AREAS
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the electrified houses of the country particularly in the rural backward areas, have to face 15-20 hours of power cut in a day;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any special package is under consideration to supply abundant power to the Agriculturists;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which this situation is likely to be improved?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Electricity being a concurrent subject, responsibility for supply of electricity to different areas/categories of consumers including rural areas and agriculture lies with the concerned State Government/Power Utilities in the State. Government of India only supplements the efforts of State Government(s) by establishing power generation projects through Central Public Sector Undertakings. The power shortages continue to be witnessed in the country/States, primarily due to the fact that the growth in demand for power has been outstripping the growth in availability of power. The shortages vary from State to State/area to area on season to season and month to month basis, depending on availability of power and its demand and the priorities for supply of power to various areas/categories consumers decided by the concerned State Government/Power Utilities in the State.

Self sufficiency in power in the country would depend on growth in capacity addition vis-a-vis growth in demand for electricity. With the capacity addition of 62,374 MW during the 11th Plan and the actual energy requirement and peak demand in March, 2012 turning out to be in line with forecast in the 17th Electric Power Survey, the energy as well as peaking shortage in the country is expected to come down substantially from the prevailing level (April to November, 2010) of 8.9% and 10.2% respectively.