

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3891
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2009
DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF GAS
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the demand and supply of gas for power projects during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether several gas based power projects in the country are facing shortage of gas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fulfil the demand of gas of power projects?

Answer

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

(a) : The project-wise demand and supply of gas for gas based power projects during the last three years and the current year (April-June 2009) are attached as Annex-I, II, III & IV.

(b) & (c) : Yes, Madam. Several gas based power plants in the country are facing shortages of gas. Details of supply of gas to gas based power plants during last three years and the current year (April-June 2009) are given in part (a) above.

The gap in demand and production of gas in the country is the main reason for shortage of gas to gas based power stations.

(d) : Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to augment gas supplies and bridge the gap between supply and demand for the domestic market. These cover:-

(i) The Empower Group of Ministers (EGoM) accorded priority to power sector and allocated 18 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD) of KG D6 gas to the power sector out of 40 MMSCMD.

(ii) Allocation of un-utilized gas available on fallback basis (over and above 18 MMSCMD) to power plants.

(iii) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOP&NG) is taking necessary steps to increase availability of gas from domestic sources by awarding gas blocks for Exploration & Production (E&P) activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

(iv) MOP&NG is encouraging import of gas in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and also making efforts for import of gas through international pipelines projects.

(v) In order to explore and produce new sources of natural gas from coal bearing areas, government has formulated a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy providing attractive fiscal and contractual framework for exploration and production of CBM in the country.

(vi) Government is encouraging Under Ground Coal Gasification (UGCG) and coal liquification and investment by private entrepreneurs in development of these frontier technologies. The notification specifying coal gasification and liquefaction as end-uses has been published in the Gazette of India on 12th July, 2007.

(vii) Implementation of Natural Gas Hydrate Programme (NGHP) for evaluation of hydrate resources and their possible commercial exploitation.