

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2242
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011
THERMAL COAL POWER PLANTS
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the power generation capacity of various thermal power plants in the country in comparison with the total power generation, plant-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether a number of power plants are not generating power as per their installed power generation capacity;
- (c) if so, the State-wise details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): The power generation capacity of various thermal power plants in the country, state-wise and plant-wise power generation during 2011-12 (upto July, 2011) is given at Annex-I.
- (b) & (c): The performance of power plants is dependent on a number of factors like type/category of plant (hydro, thermal, nuclear), installed capacity, design and age of the units, outages for repairs (forced) and planned maintenance, availability of water, quantity and quality of fuel, etc. The Plant Load Factor (PLF) is an index of utilization of the installed capacity of thermal generating units. A statement indicating coal-based thermal power stations having PLF below the national average PLF during the period April- July, 2011 is enclosed at Annex-II. The main reasons for low PLF include vintage of the units, technological obsolescence, long duration forced outages, inadequate availability of coal, etc.
- (d) : The steps taken / being taken to improve PLF of thermal power stations in the country include (i) renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generating units, (ii) introduction of units of bigger size / super-critical generating units, (iii) thrust to import of coal by the power utilities to bridge the gap between requirement of coal and its availability from domestic sources, etc.