

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2032

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011

POTENTIAL OF POWER GENERATION

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**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there exists huge potential of power generation in the North- East region of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the capacity of power generation estimated in the region, source-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the power projects functioning in the region at present along with their power generation capacity, Source-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to exploit the full power generation potential of the region?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): The North Eastern Region (NER) of the country is blessed with enormous hydro-electric potential, which also constitutes the major source of power generation in the region. Based on the studies for re-assessment of hydro-electric potential of the country, completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, the total identified hydro capacity in NER of the Country is 58971 MW, out of which 58356 MW is from projects above 25 MW. This constitutes about 40% of the total identified hydro capacity in the country. The state-wise details of identified Hydro capacity in the N.E. Region, as on 31.10.2011, are given below:

Region/ State Identified Hydro Capacity in NE region as per  
reassessment study

Total (MW) Above 25 MW

Meghalaya 2394 2298

Tripura 15 0

Manipur 1784 1761

Assam 680 650

Nagaland 1574 1452

Arunachal Pradesh 50328 50064

Mizoram 2196 2131

Total (NER): 58971 58356

The NE region also has coal reserves which has been assessed as about 1076 Million Tonnes while the present production of coal in North Eastern coal fields is about 1 Million Tonne. The State-wise coal resources in NE region are as under:-

(In million Tonne)

State Geological Coal resources (As on 1.4.2009)

Proved Indicated Inferred Total

Arunachal Pradesh 31 40 19 90

Assam 348 36 3 387

Meghalaya 89 17 471 577

Nagaland 9 0 13 22

Total: 477 93 506 1076

Apart from the above, the region also has some gas reserves in Assam & Tripura and power generation capacity of gas based power plants in the region is 787 MW.

(c): The power projects in operation in NE region as on 31.10.2011 alongwith their power generation capacity, Source-wise and State-wise is given in Annex-I. In addition, detail of power projects, presently under construction in the NER, is given in Annex-II.

(d): As mentioned above, the power potential in NE region is predominantly hydel in nature. However, out of the identified hydro power potential of 58356 MW (above 25 MW), presently, 9 H.E. Projects (above 25 MW) with an aggregate installed capacity of 1116 MW (above 25 MW), are in operation in North Eastern region. In addition, 7 HE projects with aggregate capacity of 4686 MW are under construction in NER. The steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Govt. to exploit the full hydro power generation potential in the region, are given in Annex-III.