GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1737
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
POWER GENERATION CAPACITY
Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various power projectsincluding hydro power projects are unableto generate power as per their installedcapacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project/State-wise alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any Life Extension andUprating of hydro power projects have been carried out for increasing theircapacity;

(d) if so, the details of projects in whichLife Extension and Uprating were carriedout during the last three years and thecurrent year, project and State- wise; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the Government to increase the power generation capacity of such projects in thecountry?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The performance of power plants is dependent on a number of factors, like type/category of plant (hydro or thermal), design and age of the units, outages for repairs (forced) and planned maintenance, availability of water, quantity & 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 thermal power stations having PLF below the national average PLF during the period April, 2011-February, 2012 is enclosed at Annex-I. The main reasons for low PLF include vintage and technology, long duration forced outages, supply of coal having quality at variance with the design coal, etc.

Availability of water for hydel power generation influences the performance of hydro power stations. Therefore, unlike PLF for thermal stations, availability of hydel power station is used to assess the performance of that station. List of hydro power stations which are not generating power as per their generation capacity is enclosed at Annex-II. Reasons for their performance below their generating capacity include long duration forced outages, closure of the plant on account of taking up Renovation & Modernization, Life Extension and uprating works, problem of silt, etc.

(c): To augment the hydro power generation capacity, Govt. of India has put emphasis on Renovation & Modernization (R&M) of various existing hydro electric projects in the country.

(d): List of hydro projects where Life Extension and Uprating has been carried out during last three years and the current year is given at Annex III

(e) : The other steps taken by the Government to bring improvement in the generation capacity of such projects include the following :

(i) Continuous interaction of CEA engineers with plant authorities, BHEL and other concerned agencies for solving bottlenecks in O&M activities.

(ii) Continuous interaction of CEA with better performing power utilities and the other power utilities for sharing better O&M practices.