

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1321
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
HYDRO POWER PROJECTS
Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various power projects including hydro power projects are unable to generate power as per their installed capacity in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof project-wise, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any Life Extension and Uprating of hydro power projects have been carried out for increasing capacity;
- (d) if so, the details of projects in which Life Extension and Uprating were carried out during the last three years and the current 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 the country?

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 and quality of fuel, receipt of schedule from beneficiaries, etc.

The Plant Load Factor (PLF) is an index of utilization of the installed capacity of thermal/nuclear generating units. A statement indicating thermal power stations having PLF below the national average PLF during the period April-July, 2012 is enclosed at Annex-I. The main reasons for low PLF include vintage and technology, long duration forced outages, shortage of coal and gas, supply of coal having quality at variance with the designed coal, etc.

Availability of water for hydel power generation influences the performance of hydro power stations. Therefore, unlike PLF for thermal stations, availability of water for hydel power station is used to assess their performance. 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 for their Renovation & Modernization, Life Extension and uprating works, problem of silt, etc.

(c): To augment the hydro power generation, emphasis has been put on Life Extension and Uprating of various existing hydroelectric projects in the country.

(d): State-wise list of hydro projects in which Life Extension and Uprating were carried out during the last three years and executed/under execution during the current year is given at Annex-III.

(e) : In addition, there is a regular interaction of CEA engineers with plant authorities, BHEL and other concerned agencies for solving bottlenecks in O&M activities.