

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:256  
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2009  
POWER SHORTAGE IN SOUTHERN STATES  
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**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Southern States in the country are facing acute power shortage;
- (b) if so, the demand and supply of power in southern States, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for power shortage in these States;
- (d) the names of gas-based, coal-based as well as hydel power projects in Southern States which are lying idle or where production of power is below capacity;
- (e) the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken to improve power situation in these States?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) : During the period April-October, 2009, the energy and peak shortage in the Southern Region was of the order of 7964 Million Unit (6.3%) and 2771 Mega Watt (9.5%) respectively. The state-wise details in this regard are as under:

Energy

State / UT	Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Surplus / Deficit (MU)	(%)
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Andhra Pradesh	45,478	42,230	3,248	7.1
Karnataka	25,158	23,415	1,743	6.9
Kerala	10,039	9,745	294	2.9
Tamil Nadu	44,824	42,258	2,566	5.7
Puducherry	1,275	1,162	113	8.9
Southern Region	1,26,774	1,18,810	7,964	6.3

MU = Million Unit

Peak

State / UT	Requirement (MW)	Availability (MW)	Surplus / Deficit (MW)	(%)
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Andhra Pradesh	11,325	10,294	1,031	9.1
Karnataka	7,196	6,352	844	11.7
Kerala	3,045	2,852	193	6.3
Tamil Nadu	10,158	9,675	483	4.8
Puducherry	325	281	44	13.5
Southern Region	29,216	26,445	2,771	9.5

MW = Mega Watt

(c) : The main reason for shortage of power in the Southern States is that the demand for electricity has been growing at relatively faster rate compared to the capacity addition. Even the actual generation from the existing stations has been lower than the targets.

(d) : List of hydro & thermal power plants where the generation of electricity was less than 90% of the target set for the period April to October, 2009 is enclosed as Annex.

(e) : The main reasons for shortfall in generation vis-à-vis targets are :

# Shortage of coal.

# Poor quality of coal.

# Long duration of outages of the units for repairs (forced outages and planned maintenance).

# Less inflow in the rivers / controlled release of water from the reservoir.

# Shortage of nuclear fuel.

# The recent floods in the Southern Region led to shut down of hydro projects, leading to loss of generation.

(f) : Steps taken to improve power situation in Southern States include :

(i) Generation capacity addition of 14,920 MW in the 11th Plan has been targeted in the Southern Region including 6,440 MW in the Central Sector.

(ii) The gas based power stations in the Southern Region excluding the plants in Andhra Pradesh have been allocated gas from KG Basin (D6) to operate at 70% Plant Load Factor (PLF); the gas based stations of Andhra Pradesh were allocated gas for operation at 75% PLF. In addition, 12 MMSCMD gas has also been made available to power plants including those in Southern Region on fall back basis.

(iii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW capacity.

(iv) Harnessing surplus captive power into the grid.

(v) Import of coal to meet the shortfall between requirement of coal and its availability from the domestic sources.

(vi) Strengthening and improving of sub-transmission system in the States under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards reduction of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses.

(vii) Promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.