

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3162
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013
POWER GENERATION CAPACITY
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the power generation capacity and the volume of power produced by the national energy producers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the under utilisation of power generation capacity of energy producers is a major concern; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b): The monitored capacity of central sector generation stations as on 31.07.2013 was 68,496.93 MW. Actual gross electricity generation by these plants during 2013-14 (up to 31st July, 2013) was approximately 1,19,776 Million Unit.

(c) & (d): The utilization of installed capacity of a generating unit of power producers is linked to the type of power station. While the thermal units are meant to be utilized continuously as base-load units, hydro units are to be utilized both as base or peak load, depending on availability of water/reservoir level. Thus, utilization of installed capacity is effectively applicable to thermal (including nuclear) generating units and is expressed in terms of Plant Load Factor (PLF). The PLF of thermal and nuclear units mainly depends on a number of factors such as age of the units, outages for repairs (forced) and planned maintenance, availability of quantity and quality of fuel and receipt of schedule from beneficiaries, 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. Reasons for their performance below their generating capacity include inadequate availability of coal and gas, supply of coal having quality at variance with designed coal, long duration forced outages, closure of the plant on account of taking up Renovation & Modernization, Life Extension and uprating works, problem of silt, etc.

The remedial steps taken by the Government are :

- (i) Pursuing with Coal India Limited for adequate quantity and quality of coal including for third party sampling of coal quality.
- (ii) Pursuing with the States for scheduled procurement of power.
- (iii) Pursuing with power stations for lesser forced outage.
- (iv) Expediting renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units.
- (v) To meet the shortfall in coal supplies to thermal power stations from indigenous sources, the power utilities have been advised to import coal.
- (vi) Regular reviews are held at various levels including Ministry of Power, Ministry of Heavy Industries, Ministry of Coal, Planning Commission and Cabinet Secretariat to identify the constraint areas and facilitate faster resolution of inter-ministerial and other outstanding issues. For the State Sector generating units review is also held at various levels of the respective State Utilities.
- (vii) De-silting of hydro stations caused by heavy rains.