

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:20

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013

UTILISATION OF HYDEL POWER

Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the gap between the demand and supply of power in the country can be bridged by optimum utilisation of the power generation capacity of the hydel power sector and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the construction work of hydel power projects in the country is facing a number of bottlenecks, both natural and man-made;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to remove these bottlenecks;
- (d) whether the operational time period of the hydel power projects have been extended for increasing power generation and accordingly their status have been upgraded; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, project and State-wise and the other steps being taken by the Government to augment power generation capacity of the hydel power projects?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 20 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 05.12.2013 REGARDING UTILISATION OF HYDEL POWER.

(a) : No, Madam. The gap between demand and supply of power in the country cannot be bridged only by optimum utilization of power generation capacity of the hydel power sector in the country. It has to be met by optimum utilization of power generation capacity from all sources including, inter-alia, hydel, thermal, nuclear, renewable etc.

(b) & (c) : Yes, Madam. The hydro power projects do face bottlenecks during implementation. These include, inter-alia, difficult geological conditions (natural), uncertain weather conditions (natural), local area agitations (man- made), etc. The Government has taken the following steps to remove bottlenecks for implementation of hydel power projects in the country as follows:

(i) Each project is monitored by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) through frequent site visits, interaction with developers, critical study of monthly progress reports, etc. Chairperson, CEA holds regular review meetings with developers and other stakeholders to resolve the critical issues/bottlenecks.

(ii) A Power Project Monitoring Panel (PPMP) has been set up by the Ministry of Power to independently follow up and monitor the progress of hydro projects.

(iii) Review meetings are taken by Ministry of Power regularly with the concerned officers of CEA, Equipment manufacturers, State Utilities/Central Public Sector Undertakings / Project developers, etc. to resolve the critical issues.

(iv) Proper Project planning is ensured to take care of difficult weather and work conditions including transportation of critical manpower and material in the available working season.

(v) A Task Force on Hydro Power Development was constituted in 2007 under the Chairmanship of Minister of Power to examine & resolve issues relating to Hydro Project Development. Last meeting of the Task Force was held on 10.09.2013.

(vi) An Advisory Group under the Chairmanship of Minister of Power has been set up in January, 2013 to discuss and deliberate various issues pertaining to the development of Power Sector, including hydro development.

(d) & (e) : Yes, Madam.

During last three years and the current year, Life Extension (LE) works in four hydro electric projects with aggregate Installed Capacity of 438 MW have been completed by the respective generation utilities in the country thereby extending their operational life.

In addition to Life Extension works, Renovation, Modernization & Uprating (RM&U) works in 6 hydro electric projects with aggregate Installed Capacity of 2,485 MW have also been completed by the respective generation utilities during the last three years and the current year thereby augmenting power generation capacity.

The project / State-wise details are given at Annex.

As regards other steps, the Government has adopted a multi- pronged strategy for augmenting hydel capacity and hydro power generation in the country. Some of the policy measures and initiatives taken by the Government include, an investor-friendly New Hydro Policy, 2008, liberal National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, Renovation, Modernization and life extension of old hydel generating units, incentives for completion of projects ahead of schedule, etc.