

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3214
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014
DRYING OF COAL STOCKS AND POWER CRISIS
Thota Shri Narasimham

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that coal stocks dried up in several major power plants including those owned by the State run National Thermal Plant Corporation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether many parts in the country are faced with severe power crisis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b) : As on 04.12.2014, 28 number of Thermal Power Plants are having coal stock less than 4 days. During April-October, 2014, the growth in the supply of coal for coal based power plants was 10.5%. However, as the generation from Hydro power plants was quite less due to deficient monsoon, the requirement of power was met through enhanced generation from coal based power plants. The growth in coal based generation as compared to the same period last year was 15.38%. This has led to depletion in coal stocks.

(c) & (d) : The shortage of power varies from state to state depending upon the demand and supply of power. As reported by the States, the energy and peaking shortage in the country during the current year (April, 2014 to October, 2014) is 4.1% and 4.7% respectively.

The steps taken by the Government to meet the future power demands, inter alia, are as below:

(i) Capacity addition of 1,18,537 MW (including 88,537 MW conventional and 30,000 MW renewable) by 2016-17. As against this, about 48,390 MW from conventional sources has been achieved till 30.11.2014 and about 8,297 MW from renewable till 31.10.2014.

(ii) Construction of 1,07,440 ckm transmission lines and setting up of 2,82,740 MVA transformation capacity by 2016-17. As against this, 45,570 ckm of transmission lines and 1,56,354 MVA of transformation capacity have been achieved till October, 2014.

(iii) Government of India has taken initiative to prepare Action Plans for providing 24X7 Power For All (PFA) in partnership with the States.

(iv) Two new schemes have been approved by the Government of India, namely, Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana and Integrated Power Development Scheme for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution networks and for segregation of agricultural feeders to give adequate and reliable supply and reduce line losses.

(v) Renovation & Modernization (R&M) and Life Extension / Upgrading of a total of 29,367 MW old thermal power plants is planned by the concerned State and Central Power Utilities for improving the Plant Load Factor of existing power stations

(vi) The gap in indigenous coal availability is being met through enhanced coal production and coal imports for increased generation by thermal plants.

(vii) Promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency and demand side management measures is being undertaken.

(viii) In order to support financial viability of State Distribution Utilities (Discoms), the Central Government had notified a Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP).

(ix) Expedious resolution of issues relating to environmental and forest clearances to facilitate early completion of generation and transmission projects.