

Title: Need to ensure adequate allocation of liquid fuel to the State of Maharashtra.

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE (SATARA): Sir, the Ministry of Power have communicated the allocation of liquid fuel of 950 MW capacity for the State of Maharashtra. This is the result of long correspondence on this matter between Ministry of Power, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and State Government. Maharashtra being a large State having broad industrial base and ever growing demand for power, the allocated capacity of liquid fuel is much lower than the capacity allocated to other States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. The allocated fuel given to this State is already linked for projects proposed by the private sectors for captive generation facilities, leaving nothing for promoting new projects either of Integrated Power Projects type or Maharashtra State Electricity Board's own.

The peak demand of Maharashtra as projected by 15th EPS is 13,147 MW at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan. With the projects which are planned, the expected capacity is going to be 18,103 MW. Looking at the present industrial growth and rise in demand in the last two years, demand at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan is going to be more than what was projected in the year, 1994-95.

Keeping above in mind, the State Government has proposed seven IPPs to add to the Power generating capacity of the State. The State Government has already sent the details of seven medium size projects based on liquid fuel and pursued the matter. But the Government of India has so far not considered the request to grant liquid fuel based power projects beyond the allocated capacity of 950 MW.

As the global tenders have been invited for setting up medium sized liquid fuel based power plant at seven locations in MIDC area which is already developed by MIDC and water supply to these projects has also been assured, it is essential to consider an additional allocation of liquid fuel amounting to 1,200 MW to the State of Maharashtra. (ends)