

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.177**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**SELF-RELIANCE IN POWER SECTOR**

**177 # SHRI RAM SHAKAL:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government acknowledges the fact that the country is not yet self-reliant in the power sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has chalked out any plan to make the country self-reliant in the power sector before completion of 100 years of Independence; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

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

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## STATEMENT

### **STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 177 ANSWERED IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON 14.12.2021 REGARDING SELF-RELIANCE IN POWER SECTOR**

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**(a) to (d) :** No, Sir. The country has enough established capacity to meet the power demand. As on 30.11.2021, the installed generating capacity was about 392 Giga Watt (GW) against the Peak Power Demand of around 203 GW which occurred during the current year 2021-22.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1910**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**POWER TRANSMISSION LINE BETWEEN BUTWAL AND GORAKHPUR**

**1910 SHRI SANJAY SETH:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has signed an agreement with Nepal to develop 400 kv cross border power transmission line between Butwal and Gorakhpur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it will also be helpful in getting surplus power from Nepal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) & (b) :** Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), a Government of India Undertaking, has signed a Share Holders' Agreement with Nepal Electricity Authority on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021, for setting up of a Joint Venture (JV) company with 50:50 equity participation by PGCIL & Nepal Electricity Authority to implement the Indian portion of 400 kV Gorakhpur-Butwal double circuit transmission line.

**(c) & (d) :** 400 kV Butwal (Nepal) – Gorakhpur (India) double circuit transmission line shall provide additional connectivity of 1000 MW for exchange of power between the two countries.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1913**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**PM-SAUBHAGYA SCHEME FOR UTTAR PRADESH**

**1913 SHRI SYED ZAFAR ISLAM:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has implemented Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) to connect all the villages of Uttar Pradesh with electricity, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the target had been fixed to connect villages with electricity under the above said scheme for 2021?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) & (b) :** Government of India launched the “Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana” – Saubhagya in October, 2017 with the objective to achieve universal household electrification for providing electricity connections to all willing un-electrified households in rural areas and all willing poor households in urban areas in the country by March, 2019. All households were reported electrified by the States (including 79,80,568 households of Uttar Pradesh) except 18,734 households in Left Wing Extremists (LWE) affected areas of Chhattisgarh as on 31.03.2019. Subsequently, Uttar Pradesh electrified 12,00,003 un-electrified households, identified before 31.03.2019, which were unwilling earlier but have expressed willingness to get electricity connection. Further, based on the request from Uttar Pradesh, electrification of 3,34,652 additional un-electrified households identified before 31.03.2019, have been sanctioned in July, 2021.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1914**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**SWITCH OVER FROM CONVENTIONAL TO SMART METERS**

**1914 SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued an advisory to States/UTs to switch over to prepaid Smart Meters on priority;
- (b) if so, the details of advisory issued to States/UTs;
- (c) the estimated cost of change from conventional meters to smart card meters; and
- (d) the estimated cost of aforesaid switch over through out the country and whether the Union Government will compensate State Governments in this regard?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) to (d) :** Ministry of Power vide letter dated 26.02.2021 has requested all the States to prepare a road map for shifting over to smart pre-payment meters/ pre-payment meters.

In the Union Budget, 2021-22, Hon'ble Finance Minister announced the reforms-based-result-linked power distribution sector scheme with an outlay of Rs.3,05,984/- crore over 5 years. The scheme will provide assistance to DISCOMs for infrastructure creation including prepayment smart metering, feeder separation and upgradation of systems etc. tied to financial improvements. Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) launched by Government of India on 20.07.2021 has provision for assisting the States in modernising their systems, including smart metering. The smart meter will be installed in the OPEX mode with a part upfront payment and the remaining in instalment contingent upon the performance of the meters.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1915**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**CONVERSION OF COAL BASED POWER PLANTS INTO  
CNG/PNG BASED POWER PLANTS**

**1915 SMT. AMBIKA SONI:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of coal based power generation plants in the country along with their generation capacity, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any plan to convert coal based power plants into CNG/PNG based power generation plants; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) :** The details of State-wise installed capacity of Coal based power plants as on 31.10.2021 are furnished at **Annexure**.

**(b) & (c) :** The conversion of power plants is based on techno-economic feasibility and such decisions are taken by the power plant owners as power generations are de-licenced activity as per Section 7 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1915  
ANSWERED IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON 14.12.2021

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**Installed Capacity of Coal based Power plants as on 31.10.2021**

<b>Fuel</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Capacity (MW)</b>	<b>No of Plants</b>
Coal	Haryana	5330	5
Coal	Punjab	5680	5
Coal	Rajasthan	8900	8
Coal	Uttar Pradesh	23729	19
Coal	Chhattisgarh	23688	26
Coal	Gujarat	14692	9
Coal	Madhya Pradesh	21950	14
Coal	Maharashtra	23856	23
Coal	Andhra Pradesh	11590	9
Coal	Karnataka	9480	7
Coal	Tamil Nadu	9520	9
Coal	Telangana	7572.5	7
Coal	Bihar	7710	7
Coal	Jharkhand	4250	7
Coal	Odisha	9540	7
Coal	West Bengal	14177	17
Coal	Assam	750	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>202414.5</b>	<b>180</b>

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1916**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**CAPACITY OF COAL FUELLED POWER PLANTS**

**1916 SMT. AMBIKA SONI:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) the total installed capacity of coal fuelled power plants, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for which certain power plants do not maintain prescribed normative coal stock of 22 days; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Government in order to avoid frequent coal supply crisis?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) : The State-wise installed capacity of Coal based power plants as on 31.10.2021 is enclosed at **Annexure**.

(b): During April-Nov, 2021, power plants were not able to maintain sufficient stock as coal based power generation in the country increased by about 16% as compared to same period last year due to revival of economic activities. Further, there were interruptions in domestic coal supplies due to reasons such as heavy rains which continued until first week of Oct, 2021 as well as rise in imported coal prices in the international market which resulted into less coal import by thermal power plants.

Due to second wave of Covid-19 Pandemic in Apr-Jun, 2021, the production & logistic arrangements were also affected as a huge number of manpower got infected.

(c): The Government has taken the following measures to increase the coal supply to power plants:

- (i) To address the issues of coal supplies to power sector, an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministries of Power, Coal, Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) meet regularly to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to thermal power plants as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants.

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- (ii) Ministry of Power has constituted a Core Management Team (CMT) with members from MoP, Railways, CEA, CIL, NTPC, DVC and POSOCO to ensure close monitoring of coal stocks at thermal power plants (TPPs) and operational decisions are being taken in CMT to augment supply of sufficient quantity of coal to the TPPs.
- (iii) To help the power plants in enhancing their coal stock, CIL in Oct'21 has offered about 5.2 Million Tonnes coal from its various subsidiaries to State/Central Gencos for lifting through Rail Cum Road (RCR)/ Road mode.
- (iv) Revised coal stocking norms based on 85% Plant Load Factor (PLF) have been issued by CEA mandating the coal stock of 17 days at pit head stations and 26 days at non-pit head stations to be maintained by power plants through February to June every year.
- (v) An Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising of Secretary (Coal), Secretary (Power), Secretary (MoEF&CC) and Chairman, Railway Board has been set up to review the situation and ensure adequate supply to power plants in the country.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1916  
ANSWERED IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON 14.12.2021

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**Installed Capacity of Coal/ Lignite based Power plants as on 31.10.2021**

<b>Fuel</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Capacity (MW)</b>
Coal	Haryana	5330
Coal	Punjab	5680
Coal	Rajasthan	8900
Coal	Uttar Pradesh	23729
Coal	Chhattisgarh	23688
Coal	Gujarat	14692
Coal	Madhya Pradesh	21950
Coal	Maharashtra	23856
Coal	Andhra Pradesh	11590
Coal	Karnataka	9480
Coal	Tamil Nadu	9520
Coal	Telangana	7572.5
Coal	Bihar	7710
Coal	Jharkhand	4250
Coal	Odisha	9540
Coal	West Bengal	14177
Coal	Assam	750
	<b>Total</b>	<b>202414.5</b>

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1917**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**REVIEW BY MINISTRY OF POWER ON IMPLEMENTATION OF AP  
REORGANISATION ACT, 2014**

**1917 SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the officials of the Ministry has held a review meeting with the officials of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on the progress of implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 on issues pertaining to the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to sort out the issues?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) to (c) :** On a reference made by Andhra Pradesh, on the issue of non-payment of power dues by Telangana a meeting was held in Ministry of Power on 08.11.2021 with the representatives of Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Government of India have suggested to both the States to amicably resolve the issue.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1918**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**MAINTENANCE OF COAL STOCK**

**1918 SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

the steps taken since enforcement of payment security mechanism in August, 2019, to monitor the maintenance of adequate coal stock of more than 20 days, by power generation companies?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

The Government has taken the following measures to increase the coal supply to power plants:

- (i) To address the issues of coal supplies to power sector, an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group constituted and comprising of representatives from Ministries of Power, Coal, Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) meet regularly to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to thermal power plants (TPPs) as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants.
- (ii) Ministry of Power has constituted a Core Management Team (CMT) with members from MoP, Railways, CEA, CIL, NTPC, DVC and POSOCO to ensure close monitoring of coal stocks at TPPs and operational decisions are being taken in CMT to augment supply of sufficient quantity of coal to the TPPs.
- (iii) To help the power plants in enhancing their coal stock, CIL in Oct'21 offered about 5.2 Million Tonnes coal from its various subsidiaries to State/Central Gencos for lifting through Rail Cum Road (RCR)/ Road mode.
- (iv) Revised coal stocking norms based on 85% Plant Load Factor (PLF) have been issued by CEA mandating the coal stock of 17 days at pit head stations and 26 days at non-pit head stations to be maintained by power plants during February to June every year.
- (v) An Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising of Secretary (Coal), Secretary (Power), Secretary (MoEF&CC) and Chairman, Railway Board has been set up to review the situation and ensure adequate supply of coal to power plants in the country.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1919**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**AMENDMENT IN ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003**

**1919 # DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans of making amendments in the Electricity Act, 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a possibility of adverse impact of these proposed amendments on small domestic consumers and farmers;
- (d) whether there is a possibility of withdrawal of subsidy being given to farmers on electricity bills due to proposed amendments and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government plans to make amendments in Tariff Policy after carrying out these proposed amendments in the said Act?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) to (c):** The condition of most of the State Government owned Distribution companies is a matter of grave concern. Their AT&C losses at the end of 2019-20 range from an average of 21% to a maximum of 60.16 %. The gap between Average Cost of Supply (ACS) and Average Revenue Realised (ARR) excluding Regulatory Assets and Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) grants averages 60 paise per Unit in 2019-20 and the accumulated losses of all DISCOMs in the country by 2019-20 have risen to Rs.5,07,416 crore. DISCOMs have not been able to pay the Generation Companies for the power procured, and the Outstanding payments to Generation Companies is estimated to be in excess of Rs.1,56,000 crore. The Outstanding dues to Renewable Generators are around 11 months of revenues. Therefore, reforms have been deliberated upon in consultation with the States and all Stakeholders. No final decisions have been arrived at so far.

**(d) & (e):** The State Governments have right to give subsidy to the extent they consider appropriate as per provision of section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and relevant provisions of Tariff Policy. There is no proposal to amend this provision.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1920**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021

**THERMAL POWER PROJECTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

**1920 SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is not even a single Central Sector Thermal Power project undertaken in the State of Andhra Pradesh since its bifurcation in 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government will come forward to set up a new Thermal Power Plant under Central Sector category in the State in the coming years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) to (e) :** Generation is a de-licensed activity and as per Section 7 of the Electricity Act, 2003, “any generating company may establish, operate and maintain a generating station without obtaining a license/permission under this Act, if it complies with the technical standards relating to connectivity with the grid”. Accordingly, sanction/approval of the Government is not required for setting up of thermal power plants.

Adequate generation capacity is available in the country to meet the demand presently.

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