

Utilization of power generation capacity

†1496. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that power is not being generated by fully utilizing the generation capacity in the country;
- (b) if so, the power generation capacity in the country till the end of March, 2008;
- (c) the percentage of capacity used to generate power during 2007 and 2008; and
- (d) the percentage of installed power generation capacity used to generate power in the hydel, thermal and nuclear sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The utilization of installed capacity of a generating unit is linked to the type of generation. While the thermal units are meant to be utilized continuously as base-load units, hydro units are to be utilized 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 depends on a number of factors such as vintage of the unit, forced and planned outages, availability of required quality and quantity of fuel etc. Indicator of performance of hydro generating unit is its availability (excluding the time required for its planned maintenance and attending to forced outages) and actual energy generation *vis-a-vis* design energy. The average PLF of thermal power plants and nuclear power plants in the country during the period April-November, 2008 was 74.65% & 42.51% respectively.

(b) The total power generation capacity in the country till the end of March, 2008 was 1,43,061 MW.

(c) The details of utilization of Thermal and Nuclear Power Stations in terms of PLF during the year 2007-08 are given below:

Year	Thermal Power Stations	Nuclear Power Stations
	Actual PLF (%)	Actual PLF (%)
2007-08	78.6	46.4

The operating availability of hydro machines for the year 2007-08 is yet to be finalized; the same for the year 2006-07 was 89.3%.

(d) The percentage share of the hydel, thermal and nuclear generation capacity during 2007-08 is given below:

	2007-08	
	Installed Capacity (MW)	% share in total installed capacity
Hydro	35908.8	25.1
Thermal	91906.8	64.2
Nuclear	4120.0	2.9
TOTAL *	143061.0*	

*Includes capacity of 11125.4 MW (7.8%) from Renewable Energy Sources (RES)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.