

(c) whether the Planning Commission has approved the proposed Plan outlay for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) whether the Ministry has moved to the Planning Commission for enhancement of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) component in the total outlay since the third year of the Eleventh Plan is already in operation; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The outlay for the power sector for the 10th Five Year Plan was Rs.2,70,276.35 crore.

(b) and (c) The Planning Commission's Working Group on Power for the 11th Plan has assessed a total fund requirement for generation, transmission, distribution, R&M etc. of Rs. 10,59,515 crore (inclusive of private sector). However, the allocation as per the Eleventh Five Year Plan document approved by the National Development Council is Rs.5,54,766 crore (exclusive of private sector).

(d) and (e) At this stage, the Ministry of Power has not made any proposal for enhancement of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) component in the total outlay for the 11th Plan.

Sanctioning of power projects

1772. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects sanctioned in Phase-I of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the number of free connections given to BPL house-holds, so far, upto March, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) 327 projects have been sanctioned in Phase-I of 11th Five Year Plan under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY).

(b) Cumulatively, free electricity connections to 53,78,558 BPL households had been released under RGGVY upto 31st March, 2009.

National fund to curb T & D losses

1773. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Electricity Fund, to cut glaring transmission and distribution losses in country's power sector, is likely to become operational soon;

(b) whether Rs.2,72,000 crore is required to upgrade T & D system;

(c) if so, whether out of this Rs. 72,000 crore is proposed to be arranged by States from their own resources and from financial institutions;

(d) whether Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages increase in power generation capacity by 78,577 MW by March 2012, from 1,45,000 MW installed capacity;

(e) if so, whether State power utilities have decided to cut down transmission losses by 2011-12; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in this regard, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The creation of National Electricity Fund (NEF) was announced in the Budget Speech 2008-09. In pursuance of announcement, Government had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Power), Planning Commission to consider various aspects of establishing the NEF. The concept note on establishment of NEF has been circulated by Planning Commission. Ministry of Power is examining the concept note.

(d) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW has been set for the 11th Five Year Plan. As on 31.03.2007, the installed capacity was 13329 MW. Thus, the installed capacity would be 2.11,029 MW by March, 2012.

(e) and (f) Prior to year 2001-02, utilities used to monitor Transmission & Distribution (T&D) losses. The concept of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) loss was introduced in 2001-02. AT&C loss captures not only the technical losses but also the theft, pilferages and commercial losses due to poor metering and billing and non-realization of dues. The following steps have been taken to check T&D losses:-

(i) The Government had launched APDRP in the year 2002-03 with the objective of encouraging reforms, reducing AT&C loss, improving quality of supply of power and improving consumer satisfaction. AT&C loss has come down in towns where APDRP has been implemented. Further, some of the utilities which adopted various interventions as envisaged under the programme have shown significant reduction in AT&C loss.

(ii) In the 11th Plan, the APDRP scheme has been restructured with revised terms and conditions as a Central Sector Scheme with emphasis on actual demonstrable performance in terms of sustained loss reduction. Establishment of reliable and automated system for sustained collection of accurate base line data and the adoption of Information Technology in the areas of energy accounting have been made necessary pre-conditions before sanctioning of any projects. The scheme aims to reduce AT & C losses to 15% by end of the programme.

(iii) Restructuring of State Electricity Boards is mandated under the Electricity Act, 2003.

(iv) For controlling of theft, punitive provisions are available under the Electricity Act, 2003. Special Courts are set up to deal with cases relating to theft of electricity.

Approval of power projects

1774. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any prior approval is required from the Central Electricity Authority for taking up power projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether any criteria has been decided by CEA;