

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL):
(a) and (b) Ministry of Power has requested Ministry of Coal to review its decision of de-allocation of the Chatti-Bariatu, Kerandari and Chatti-Bariatu (South) coal blocks allotted to NTPC and Brahmini and Chichro-Patsimal blocks allotted to the joint venture company of CIL and NTPC.

(c) and (d) Current installed capacity of NTPC and its Joint Venture companies is 34854 MW and out of which 83% is coal based. Projects totaling to 14088 MW are currently under construction and bids for capacity of 18807 MW are under various stages of evaluation. Approved feasibility reports are available for projects totaling 12625 MW. The capacity to be commissioned by 2017 is subject to availability of coal/gas linkage, land acquisition and statutory clearances.

Use of smart grid technologies

890. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Smart Grid Task Force, an inter-ministerial group formed to improve power sector efficiencies through smart grid technologies, plans to spend nearly Rs. 600 crore for the implementation of pilot projects across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the power sector, especially in the transmission and distribution segments, is plagued by theft and losses; and

(d) if so, how Government proposes to check such theft and transmission losses in the power sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) India Smart Grid Task Force (ISGTF), an Inter-ministerial group formed by Ministry of Power to evolve a roadmap for implementation of Smart Grids in the country, is considering to take up a few smart grid pilot projects. The amount of money to be spent on tribal projects cannot be estimated at this stage.

(c) The transmission system which transmits power at High Voltage is not plagued by theft. Transmission loss is limited to technical loss which is in the range of 3.0 to 5.5% at regional level.

Losses due to theft and high technical losses are prevalent in the distribution segment. The national percentage average of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses for the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 as contained in the 7th 'Report on Performance of State Power Utilities' published by Power Finance Corporation are 30.62%, 29.58% and 28.44% respectively.

(d) A number of technical and administrative interventions have been initiated by the Central Government/State Governments/Distribution Companies for reduction of AT&C losses. Ministry of Power has launched Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) as a Central Sector Scheme for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Under this Programme, assistance is being provided to the States for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution systems of high-density load centres like towns and industrial areas with main objectives of reduction in AT&C losses. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of sustained loss reduction.

Projects under the scheme are taken up in two Parts. **Part-A** is for establishment of base line data and IT application, for energy accounting/auditing and IT based consumer service centres. **Part-B** include regular distribution strengthening projects.

Administrative intervention for reducing commercial losses through effective control of theft of electricity include incorporation of specific provisions in the Electricity Act, 2003 for detection of theft, speedy trial of theft related offences and also for recovery of the charges of electricity stolen. Government of India, Ministry of Power has amended Section 135 and Section 151 of the Electricity Act, 2003 through the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2007 making the offence punishable under Section 135-140 and Section 150 as cognizable and non-bailable. Moreover powers have been vested with the police officer in line with Chapter XII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974). The definition of theft has been expanded under Section 135 to cover use of tampered meters and use of electricity for unauthorized purpose by insertion of provisions (d) and (e) under Section 135(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003.

Administrative measures also include constitution of Special Courts (as per Section 153 of the Act) for speedy trial of offences committed under Section 135-140 of the Act. So far 24 States have constituted Special Courts for such purposes.

FDI in power sector

891. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in power sector has declined in 2010-11;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any policy for attracting FDI; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) As per information available, the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in the power