

**Issue plaguing power sector**

2766. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of issues which are plaguing the power sector today;
- (b) the reasons behind these problems; and
- (c) the steps taken to solve these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Power sector is facing numerous issues and efforts are being made by the Government to address these. Some of the major issues being faced by the power sector include shortage of coal, shortage of gas and poor financial health of Distribution Companies (DISCOMS).

(c) Several steps have been initiated by the Government to address the issues in the power sector. These include advice to Coal India Limited (CIL) to enhance production of coal in the country; import of coal, to the extent technically feasible, to bridge the gap between its requirement and availability from domestic sources; thrust on ramping up production of coal by captive coal block allottees from existing mines and expedite commissioning of new coal blocks; initiation of steps by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to augment production of natural gas from the gas fields/wells; and notification of a scheme for financial restructuring of the State distribution companies (DISCOMS) by the Ministry of Power on 05.10.2012 to enable the turnaround of the State DISCOMs and ensure their long term viability.

**Capacity addition in power sector**

2767. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the target of capacity addition in power sector in the first and subsequent years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan was reduced;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) initiatives suffered slowdown in the whole span of Eleventh Plan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Mundra and Sarguja UMPP of Chhattisgarh has been commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission had originally fixed the capacity addition target of 78,700 MW for the Eleventh Plan. However, during the Mid-term Appraisal (MTA) carried out by the Planning Commission, the capacity addition target for the Eleventh Plan was revised to 62,374 MW taking into account the stage and pace of construction of power projects and their likelihood of commissioning during the Eleventh Plan period.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. As per schedule in the Power Purchase Agreements, all the units of 4 awarded Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP) are to be commissioned in the Twelfth Plan, except the last unit of 660 MW Talaiya UMPP which is likely to come in the Thirteenth Plan. Three units of 800 MW each of Mundra UMPP have been commissioned so far. The UMPP at Sarguja in Chhattisgarh State is at bidding stage.

#### **Proposed extension of RGGVY in Twelfth plan**

2768. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects sanctioned under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in the country, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh under Phase-I and Phase-II;

(b) the progress of each of the projects, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Ministry has put forward any proposal to the Planning Commission to continue RGGVY in the Twelfth Plan period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response from the Planning Commission thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen