

Frequent grid failure

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern Grid collapsed in December, 2012;
- (b) if so, the details of losses incurred due to the grid collapse and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government has proposed till now to address such frequent collapse of grid across country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There was disturbance in the North-Eastern Region (NER) on 14th December, 2012 and 29th December, 2012. Generation loss on 14th December and 29th December, 2012 was 553 MW and 603 MW respectively, whereas Load loss was 923 MW and 954 MW respectively. The disturbances on both the occasions was due to load-generation mismatch.

(c) Immediately after the major grid disturbances of 30th and 31st July, 2012, Ministry of Power had constituted an Enquiry Committee headed by Chairperson, CEA. The Enquiry Committee had made a number of recommendations so as to prevent future recurrence of such grid disturbances. The Ministry of Power has taken a number of steps for implementation of the recommendations of the Enquiry Committee including *inter alia*, third party protection audit; review of zone-3 philosophy; review of Unscheduled Interchange mechanism; formulation of Islanding schemes; etc. Further, petitions have also been filed in Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) by various Regional Load Despatch Centres including the National Load Despatch Centre on various issues *inter alia*, modification in congestion charge procedure, further tightening the frequency band, implementation of defence plans, primary response from generation etc.

Linking of Southern Grid with the National Grid

926. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to link Southern Grid with the National Grid on a war footing to control black-outs in major parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any kind of instructions have been issued to the consumer states to ensure that consumption of power is maintained within the limits and

any infringement would be taken up seriously which caused such black-outs in different regions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Two 765 kV S/C transmission lines from Raichur (Karnataka) to Sholapur (Maharashtra) are under construction. One line is being constructed by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. while the other is being constructed by M/s. Raichur Sholapur Transmission Company Limited (RSTCL). With the completion of these two 765 kV lines, the Southern Grid will get connected with the rest of the National Grid on a synchronous mode. These two lines are scheduled for completion in 2014.

(c) and (d) As per the sub-Section (a) to (i) of Section 5.4.2, of the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC), issued by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), constituent States of the region have to maintain drawl of power from grid as per their schedule and Regional Load Dispatch Centre (RLDCs), which is the apex body for integrated operation of the power system in a particular region, sends regular messages to those States which do not maintain the drawl of power as per their given schedules. Such violation of grid discipline is also brought to the notice of CERC. Further, CERC vide order dated 16.06.2012, 30.07.2012 and 17.08.2012 has directed the Northern Region constituents to maintain grid security of the entire NEW grid by curbing overdrawals and effecting proper load management by Northern Region constituents in terms of Indian Electricity Grid Code and Electricity Act, 2003.

Infringements by the defaulting States are dealt with in accordance with the provisions mentioned in Section 29, 142 and 143 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

Import of fuel by NTPC

927. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a designated task-force to explore possibilities for upgrading our engineering designs aiming at generation cost reduction in view of global development of such technologies;

(b) whether the import of fuel (coal) directly by NTPC rather than channeling through prevalent system of import through STC, MMTC, etc. would be a cost-effective alternative;

(c) whether the NTPC has acquired power plants in Europe, Australia, etc. with good coal linkage; and