

**Ban on load shedding during board exams**

3468. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to issue orders to all State Electricity Boards (SEBs) for ensuring that there is no load shedding at the time of board examinations so that the students are not forced to take board examinations in darkness;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Electricity being a concurrent subject, the supply and distribution of electricity to various consumers in a State and ensuring no load shedding at the time of Board examination comes under the purview of the respective State Government / State Power Utility. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by establishing Power Plants in the Central Sector and allocating power therefrom to the States / UTs to mitigate the shortage.

**Shortage of coal at thermal power plants**

3469. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM:

SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly half of the thermal power plants in the country, including over 20,000 MW capacity stations of NTPC, are reeling under coal shortage with stocks to last less than a week as on July 15, 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether 46 coal-based generating stations out of 100 have reported fuel stock for less than seven days on the above date;

(d) whether NTPC is the worst sufferer as most of its electricity generating stations have stocks to last merely two days as on the above date; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to ensure sufficient supply of coal to these power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. As on 15th July, 2014, out of the coal based power plants monitored on daily basis by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), 46 power plants had