

Gas-grid connected Power generation

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

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 24,150 MW gas-grid connected power generation capacity in the country, 14,305 MW capacity has currently no supply of domestic gas and it may be considered as stranded;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for making sufficient supply of gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) At present, country is facing deficit in availability of domestic gas for gas-based power projects and most of the gas-based power plants are operating at a very low Plant Load Factor (PLF).

In order to ensure the utilization of the stranded gas based power generation capacity available in the country, Ministry of Power (MoP) *vide*, Office Memorandum (O.M.) No. 4/2/2015-Th.I dated 27.03.2015, notified a scheme for utilization of gas based power generation capacity in the country by supply of Spot RLNG (e-bid RLNG) to both Stranded power plants and plants receiving domestic gas, for generation upto Target PLF, selected through a reverse e-bidding process.

The Scheme also envisages sacrifices to be made by all stakeholders and support from PSDF. The concessions provided for under the scheme are as under:-

- (i) Custom duty waiver on imported LNG;
- (ii) Waiver of Value Added Tax, Central Sales Tax, Octroi and Entry Tax;
- (iii) Waiver of Service Tax on regasification and transportation;
- (iv) Reduction in pipeline tariff charges, regasification charges and marketing margin;
- (v) Exemption from transmission charges and losses for stranded gas based power projects.

The Scheme is valid for a 2 year period in FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17. The Scheme is under implementation *w.e.f.* 1st June, 2015 and three rounds of auction have been completed under this Scheme.