

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.150
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

MAKING 'AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT' IN THE ENERGY SECTOR WITH THERMAL POWER

150 SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:

Will the Minister of **POWER** be pleased to state:

- (a) efforts made by Government to make 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' in the energy sector with the help of thermal power';
- (b) whether Government has drawn any roadmap for enhancing the share of relatively clean thermal power in the total energy basket of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) efforts taken by Government in the last decade for improvement in thermal power's contribution in reducing import dependence in the Energy sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS

(SHRI MANOHAR LAL)

(a) : The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India issued Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India), Order 2017 and its subsequent amendments for encouraging 'Make in India' and promoting domestic manufacturing and production of goods and services in India.

In accordance with the above provisions, MoP had notified Purchase Preference (linked with local content) for Thermal sector which, inter-alia, identified list of all goods and services or works in respect of which there is sufficient local capacity and local competition is available and mandated that only "Class-I local supplier" shall be eligible to bid for the above goods/services/works with the mandate that minimum local content should be at least 50%, irrespective of value.

(b) & (c): The Government has taken the following steps for enhancing the share of relatively clean thermal power:

(i) Promotion of installation of efficient Ultra Supercritical/Supercritical units over Subcritical Thermal Units as these units are more efficient and their emission per unit of electricity generation is less than subcritical units. 94 Numbers of Super Critical Units having capacity of 65,290 MW and 6 Numbers of Ultra Super Critical units having capacity of 4,240 MW have been commissioned as on 30.06.2024. 267 units in efficient and old thermal power plants having capacity of about 18,802.24 MW have been retired till 30.06.2024.

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(ii) Ministry of Power issued policy on Bio-mass Utilization for power generation through co-firing in coal based power plants to use 5-10% blend of biomass pellets made, primarily of agro-residue along with coal after assessing the technical feasibility. Further, revised policy for the use of agro residue-based biomass mandated usage of minimum 5% biomass co-fired along with coal for thermal power plants w.e.f. FY 2024-25 has been issued on 16.06.2023.

(iii) With a view to enhance the share of relatively clean thermal power in the total energy basket of the country, MoEF&CC has notified revised and more stringent emission norms for thermal power plants (TPPs) regarding Particulate Matter, Oxides of Nitrogen, Sulphur Dioxide and water consumption dated 07/12/2015. Further, as per MoEF&CC notification dated 05.09.2022 timelines have been given to Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) for complying with the new emission norms.

(d) & (e) : To improve the efficiency of coal fired units in Thermal Power Generation, thrust was given to set up Super-critical/ Ultra Super-critical units in the country. To ensure lifetime support for services and spares as well as to understand the technical know-how of super-critical units, Phased Manufacturing Plan (PMP) was adopted to develop requisite indigenous manufacturing facilities and technology transfer to Indian companies was carried out through Subsidiary/JVs of leading international manufacturers.

As a result PMP initiative, International Manufacturers have set up manufacturing facilities in Joint Ventures (JVs)/Subsidiary format for manufacturing of supercritical boilers/turbine generators in India. As on date, sufficient indigenous manufacturing capacity of Boilers & Turbine Generators of Super-critical/Ultra Super-critical units has been established in country.

Further, it is to be stated that dependence on imported coal for power generation over the last decade has reduced substantially. During 2014-15, domestic coal based plants have imported around 47.6 MT coal for blending (~ 8.8% of total coal receipt of 543 MT) which has reduced to 23.9 MT during 2023-24 (~2.8% of total coal receipt of 864 MT).
