

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.11
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.7.2017**

Implications on coal based thermal plants

11. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coal based thermal units that have been sanctioned during the last three years across the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is a major thrust on solar power, which will have serious implications on coal based thermal plants; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry has taken stock of the long term implications of the shift away from coal based power units in terms of coal production, local employment and the effect on the associated service sector ?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) : After enactment of Electricity Act 2003, generation of electricity has been de-licensed. Techno- Economic Clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of thermal power projects and the proposals for setting up of thermal power projects in the country are not being received in CEA. As such no coal based thermal power projects have been sanctioned/approved by CEA during last three years.

(b) : Yes. Government of India has planned an ambitious capacity addition target of 175 GW from Renewable Energy Sources (RES) by the year 2021-22, which includes 100 GW Solar, 60 GW Wind, 5 GW Small Hydro and 10 GW Biomass.

(c) : There are no adverse long term implications of the shift away from coal based power plants since renewable sources of energy are environment-friendly and also generate employment.

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