

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2232
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2023

PHASING OUT OF COAL BASED THERMAL POWER PLANTS

2232 SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan to phase out the old coal-based thermal power plants in the country including Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to move towards technologies such as super critical and ultra super critical based thermal power plants?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) : No, Sir, Central Electricity Authority vide an advisory dated 20.01.2023 suggested that no retirement or repurposing of coal based power stations will be done before 2030 considering the expected energy demand scenario and availability of capacity in future. Thermal Power Plants were also advised implementation of Renovations & Modernisation (R&M) and Life extension (LE) of their units for running up to 2030 and beyond or operating in two shift mode to facilitate Solar and Wind energy integration in to the grid, wherever feasible. Generation is a delicensed activity as per Section 7 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and phasing out/retirement of units is decided by Power generating companies based on their own techno-economic and environmental reasons.

(c) : In order to achieve higher efficiencies and to reduce carbon footprint, a large number of thermal power plants operating in the country have already adopted super-critical/Ultra Super-critical technologies. As on date 94 coal based thermal units of total capacity of 65150 MW are operating with super-critical/Ultra super-critical technologies.
