

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2539
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2018**

PLANT LOAD FACTOR

2539. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the average plant load factor of the country was less than 65% recently and if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the details thereof;**
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the efficiency of our coal-based power plants;**
- (c) the number of power plants in the country having atleast a plant load factor of 95% or more;**
- (d) whether one of the reasons for the low utilisation of power is that State- owned power companies are tied up in contractual disputes; and**
- (e) if so, the amount of money tied up in these disputes?**

A N S W E R

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER
AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY**

(SHRI R. K. SINGH)

(a) : The All India Average Plant Load Factor (PLF) of coal based power plants during the current year 2018-19 (upto November) is 61.1%. The reason for this PLF, inter-alia are increase in share of renewable generation, non scheduling of power plants in merit order, etc.

(b) : The steps taken to increase the efficiency of the coal based plants, inter-alia are:-

- (i) Promoting use of improved technology such as Supercritical Units, Ultra Supercritical Units and Advanced Ultra Supercritical Technology (A-USC).**

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- (ii) Renovation & Modernization and life Extension of old power generating units.**
- (iii) Retirement of inefficient and old thermal power generation units.**
- (iv) Promoting energy efficiency in existing thermal power plants by introduction of Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme under National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE).**

(c) : During the current year 2018-19 (upto November 2018), only Kaiga Nuclear Power Station operated at Plant Load Factor of more than 95% i.e. 96.43%.

(d) & (e) : The average utilization of coal based power projects have increased as compared to the last year. Plant Load Factor (PLF) of the coal based generating stations during the current year 2018-19 (upto November, 2018) was 61.1% which was more than the PLF of 58.8% during the same period last year. This has helped in meeting the electricity demand of around 6.6% during the current year 2018-19 (upto November, 2018). Thus, it is evident that the contractual disputes, even if any, in the State owned power companies have not impacted on the utilization of power in the country, as due to sufficient generation capacity in the grid, power can be supplied from other power plants.
