

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1775
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024**

ADDRESSING POWER CRISIS IN ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

1775. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY:

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

- (a) whether it is true that the Government of Andaman & Nicobar Islands submitted letters to the Union Government highlighting the issues related to power cuts and power shortages in the Islands and suggesting potential measures to address these challenges;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the power crisis in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, specifically considering the suggestions provided by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands UT Administration;
- (c) the details of the proposed plan of action, both in the short term and long term, to mitigate and resolve the power crisis in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands permanently; and
- (d) whether there is a specific timeline established for resolving the power crisis in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and if so, the details thereof along with expected completion or improvement dates?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) : Yes.

(b) to (d) : The steps taken by Government of India, both in the short term and long term, to mitigate and address the power situation in the Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) Islands are:

Short Term Measures

I. Augmentation of Existing Generation Capacity:

- i. Extension of the operational period of 15 MW NTPC's Diesel Generator (DG) power plant.

ii. Further, the tender has also been finalized by Electricity Department of A&N Administration under PPA mode for additional DG power of 10 MW at Chatham, 5 MW at Ograbraj and 5 MW at Bambooflat.

iii. Augmentation of in-house generation capacity to 7x2000 KVA DG sets at Chatham Power House and 5x2000 KVA DG sets at Phoenix Bay.

iv. Installation of 20 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) by Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI) is in the process of tendering and also 15 MWh BESS by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is proposed.

Long Term Measures

I. Establishment of 50 MW LNG power plant:

Ministry of Power has directed NTPC Ltd to re-initiate the process of installation of 50 MW Re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) based power plant in Sri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair) for enhancing the reliability of power supply in South Andaman Islands and Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been published on 07.11.2024.

II. Strengthening of Distribution Infrastructure:

The smart metering works at an estimated cost of Rs 54 crores and distribution infrastructure works at an estimated cost of Rs 462 crores have been sanctioned under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) to improve the distribution infrastructure in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

III. Renewable Energy (RE) Plan

A comprehensive Renewable Energy (RE) plan has been envisaged by SECI to augment the generation capacity of the islands. It envisions a total capacity of 123.25 MW of solar power, 36 MW of wind energy, 316.2 MWh of BESS and other renewable sources across South Andaman, North & Middle Andaman, and Nicobar districts, which shall ensure an optimal energy mix for the islands.
