GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.55 ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

AMENDMENT IN THE POWER EXPORT RULES

*55. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently amended the power export rules and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons and justifications with the Government for amending the rules in haste and the manner in which the urgency was assessed;
- (c) the details of power plants currently operational in the country that are selling their entire power output to neighbouring countries; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government justify that power plants in the country would get benefit from these amendments?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF POWER

(SHRI MANOHAR LAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.55 FOR REPLY ON 06.02.2025 REGARDING AMENDMENT IN THE POWER EXPORT RULES ASKED BY SHRI MANISH TEWARI.

(a) & (b): Government of India has issued *Guidelines for Import/Export* (Cross Border) of Electricity in December 2018, inter-alia, to facilitate import/export of electricity with neighbouring countries, evolve robust electricity infrastructure and promote transparent, consistent, and predictable regulatory mechanism. These guidelines, inter-alia, allow Indian Generating Stations to build dedicated transmission lines for connecting to the transmission system of neighbouring countries.

India is strengthening cross-border electricity interconnections with its neighbouring countries under the One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative, aimed at reducing reserve requirements, lowering electricity costs, and supporting energy transition. Starting in July 2023, the Government noted instances of defaults, including delayed payments to Indian generating stations supplying power to neighbouring countries, which, if unresolved, could potentially impact lenders.

Consequently, after careful consideration of the matter, the Government in August 2024, made the following amendments to the aforementioned Guidelines:

- (i) In case of sustained non-scheduling of full/part capacity or defaults, including delayed payments, the Government may permit such generating stations to be connected to the Indian Grid.
- (ii) Electricity generated from coal, gas, hydro, or renewable energy can be exported to neighbouring countries. The source of fuel may now also be specified. Additionally, electricity from collective transactions through power exchanges can now be exported.

- (c): Power is being exported to neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and Nepal under the aforementioned Guidelines. These exports include, *inter-alia*, the following:
- (i) Bangladesh is supplied entire power from Godda Ultra Super Critical Thermal Power Plant Jharkhand (1496 MW).
- (ii) Sembcorp Energy India Limited Project Andhra Pradesh (450 MW), Damodar Valley Corporation (300 MW) and NTPC stations (250 MW) supply power to Bangladesh.
- (iii) Power is also regularly exported to Nepal (up to 1004 MW), Bhutan (up to 1150 MW) and Myanmar (3 MW).
- (d): These amendments aim to enhance transparency, consistency, and predictability in the regulatory framework, and provide greater flexibility for generating companies seeking to trade electricity with neighbouring countries. In addition to strengthening cross-border interconnectivity, they will help meet domestic demand during periods of low demand in neighbouring countries, benefiting domestic consumers and optimising resource utilisation.
