

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3036
ANSWERED ON 29.03.2022

GRADUAL CLOSURE OF OLD THERMAL POWER PLANTS

**3036 SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:
SHRI VAIKO:**

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken a survey in the country to gradually close down all old thermal power stations which were most polluting the area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for not identifying the most polluted thermal stations;
- (d) whether any scheme is in place to switch to green power and to incentivise the States for switching over to green energy, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) how many States have availed of this scheme, State-wise with funds allotted for such schemes?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (e) : As per section 7 of Electricity Act, 2003, setting up of a power plant is a de-licensed activity. Utilities take their own decision to retire or shut down their units based on techno-economic and commercial considerations including high maintenance cost and meeting emission norms. In case of old Thermal Power stations which are not able to comply with the emission norms within a stipulated timeline, appropriate action is taken by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) as per Environment Protection Act, 1986, including closing down these plants.

Government of India is making efforts to achieve 500 GW of cumulative installed electricity capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030.
