

'UP to have 9,000MW more power in 5 yrs'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: The availability of power in UP will rise by around 9,000 MW in a span of next five years primarily because of the new power plants getting operational in the state, UP power minister AK Sharma told the UP assembly on Wednesday.

According to Sharma, the state will receive 2,949 MW of power by the end of the current financial year, followed by 3,131 MW in 2024-25, 400 MW in 2025-26 and subsequently 2600 MW in 2029-30. Besides this, state govt has signed a memorandum of understanding with upcoming power projects for purchase of 3,149 MW of power.

Sharma was replying to a query raised by SP legislator Sangram Singh on the steps state govt has initiated to set



Power minister AK Sharma

up new power plants in the state. Power projects which were in the line of getting fired up included the 660x2 MW Jawaharpur power plant in Etah, followed by 660 MW Panki (Kanpur) and Ghatampur 660x3 MW.

Sharma said that state govt has further stepped up measures to set up the 800x2 MW Obra D and 800x3 MW Meja power plant. Later, during a discussion, SP MLA Ragini Sonkar said that the minister was only giving new deadlines after failing to meet the previous ones

Smart meters from Apr this year

Energy minister AK Sharma announced on the floor of the House that state govt would be initiating the process of installing smart meters across the state from Apr this year. He said that the process, scheduled to be completed within a span of three years, will end the problem of faulty bills while increasing the efficiency of revenue collection.

which expired in 2023. Sharma told the House that 30,600 MW of power was available to the state at present, which was substantially enough to meet the demand and wheel in power supply as per the designated schedule in rural and urban areas of the state.

The minister said a total of 705 new 33/11 KV power sub-stations have been energized between 2017-18 and 2021-22. Similarly, the capacity of 1413 power sub-stations has been increased. From 2022-23 till now, a total of 35 new 33/11 KV power sub-sta-

tions have been energized and the capacity of 176 power sub-stations has been increased, he said. The SP legislator said state govt was carrying out projects initiated during the previous SP regime.

Repudiating Singh's claims, Sharma taunted Akhilesh Yadav of inaugurating power plants in a haste just before 2017 assembly polls, knowing "pretty well" that his party was "not coming back to power". Sharma charged the SP dispensation of signing power purchase agreements at a higher cost.