

5.1. Power Development

Economic Growth on a sustainable basis depends mainly on heavy demand for power. During the post reforms period, due to rapid industrialization, the demand for power grows at a rate between 9 and 10% per annum. Hence, it becomes necessary to ensure completion of all on-going projects quickly and add new capacity in an efficient and least cost manner. Eleventh Plan aims to augment power supply to bridge the gap between demand and supply as well as to meet the increase in future demand.

Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is one of the best performing electricity boards in India considering the size of operation, generating capacity, amount of energy sold and the number of consumers serviced. During the Eleventh Plan, it has been proposed to add a capacity addition of 7808 MW through state and central sectors, joint-venture and private sector projects. Also, it has been proposed to reduce Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses from the present 18% to 15%. The Plant load factor (PLF) is an important measure of operational efficiencies. During the year 2007-08, the PLF for the thermal stations stood at 82%, ranks third at the national level.

The installed capacity at the end of 2007-08 is as follows:

Installed Capacity at the Disposal of TNEB on 31.3.2008		
Sl.No.	Source	Capacity (MW)
1	Thermal	2970.00
2	Gas	423.88
3	Hydro	2186.65
4	Wind	17.56
5	Share from Central stations	2825.00
6	Independent Power projects	1179.76
7	External assistance	305.00
8	Others	214.65
	Total	10122.495

Source: Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

Generation

During the current year 2008-09, an additional capacity of 92 MW against the target of 95 MW has been added to the grid from Bhavani Barrage and

Periyar Vaigai Barrage projects. It is also proposed to add another 33 MW during 2009-10. During the year 2008-09, orders have been placed for setting up of 600 MW at the North Chennai thermal power station (Stage II, unit II) and establishment of 500 MW plant at Mettur thermal power station. Setting up of thermal power plants in Tuticorin of 600 MW capacity and 500 MW at Ennore are likely to be taken up.

Transmission & Distribution

An efficient distribution network is a pre-requisite to withdraw power from the power projects and to reduce the transmission losses. During the Eleventh plan, it has been proposed to establish 300 new sub-stations and erect 4000 Ckt.kms of Extra High Tension (EHT) lines. During the current year 2008-09, it is anticipated that 60 substations would be established as against the target of 90. In the case of EHT lines, it is anticipated that 1400 Ckt.kms would be erected. For the year 2009-10, it is proposed to establish 90 new sub-stations and erect 1500 Ckt.kms of EHT lines.

Rural Electrification

Rural Electrification aims to provide electricity connections to villages, hamlets, adi dravida colonies and agricultural pumpsets in rural areas. Cent percent electrification has been achieved in all the 439 towns in Tamil Nadu. In case of rural areas, as per the new definition, 95% of the villages have been electrified as on 31.03.08. Regarding provision of power connection to agricultural pumpsets, 13525 connections have been provided as on 31.09.08 in the current year as against the target of 40000. During 2008-09, 47346 huts and 41126 street lights have been electrified. It is proposed to electrify 50000 huts and 40000 streetlights during the year 2009-10.

Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)

The RGGVY is a centrally sponsored scheme with an aim of creating rural electricity infrastructure for electrification for all the rural household by 2012. In Tamil Nadu, 26 districts have been covered at a cost of Rs.447.41 crore in the first

phase out of the proposed 29 districts. The progress of the scheme during 2008-09 and the proposed target for 2009-10 is given below:

Progress of RGGVY as on 30.09.2008				
S.No	Scheme	2008-09		Proposed 2009-10
		Target	Anticipated Achievement	
1.	Creation of infrastructure in electrified villages (in nos.)	1243	1243	11173
2.	Providing access of electricity to rural households (in nos.)	169226	169226	1523009
3.	Electrification of unelectrified-BPL household (in nos.)	52458	52458	472111

Outlay for the Power sector

The outlay approved for the year 2009-10 for Power sector is Rs. 2525.70 crore. Of this, the outlay approved for Scheduled Caste Sub Plan is Rs.230.50 crore.