

Tamil Nadu is providing free electricity to poor farmers; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government propose to compensate the financial loss of the Tamil Nadu Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. According to the provisions of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998, if a State Government requires the grant of any subsidy to any consumer or class of consumers in the tariff determined by the State Commission under this section the State Government shall pay the amount to compensate the person affected by the grant of subsidy in the manner the State Commission may direct. Further in the Conference of Chief Ministers/Power Ministers held on 3.3.2001 it was resolved that subsidies may be given only to the extent of State Governments capacity to pay the subsidies explicitly through budget provisions.

Proposal to acquire Enron Stakes in DPC

3140. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to acquire Enron Stake in the Dabhol Power Company; and

b) if so, the negotiations made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Withdrawal of surplus power from Eastern Region

3141. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a plan to increase withdrawal of surplus power from Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, what was the target fixed and the progress made so far?