

(d) A number of technical and administrative interventions have been initiated by the Central Government/State Governments/Distribution Companies for reduction of AT&C losses. Ministry of Power has launched Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) as a Central Sector Scheme for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Under this Programme, assistance is being provided to the States for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution systems of high-density load centres like towns and industrial areas with main objectives of reduction in AT&C losses. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of sustained loss reduction.

Projects under the scheme are taken up in two Parts. **Part-A** is for establishment of base line data and IT application, for energy accounting/auditing and IT based consumer service centres. **Part-B** include regular distribution strengthening projects.

Administrative intervention for reducing commercial losses through effective control of theft of electricity include incorporation of specific provisions in the Electricity Act, 2003 for detection of theft, speedy trial of theft related offences and also for recovery of the charges of electricity stolen. Government of India, Ministry of Power has amended Section 135 and Section 151 of the Electricity Act, 2003 through the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2007 making the offence punishable under Section 135-140 and Section 150 as cognizable and non-bailable. Moreover powers have been vested with the police officer in line with Chapter XII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974). The definition of theft has been expanded under Section 135 to cover use of tampered meters and use of electricity for unauthorized purpose by insertion of provisions (d) and (e) under Section 135(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003.

Administrative measures also include constitution of Special Courts (as per Section 153 of the Act) for speedy trial of offences committed under Section 135-140 of the Act. So far 24 States have constituted Special Courts for such purposes.

#### **FDI in power sector**

891. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in power sector has declined in 2010-11;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any policy for attracting FDI; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) As per information available, the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in the power

sector declined, in term of US\$, by 13 per cent during the year 2010-11 as compared to 2009-10 in line with overall decline of 25% for all sector.

(c) and (d) As per the existing policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is already permitted under the automatic route for :

- (i) Generation and transmission of electric energy produced in hydro electric, coal/lignite based thermal, oil based thermal and gas based thermal power plants;
- (ii) Non-Conventional Energy Generation and Distribution;
- (iii) Distribution of electric energy to households, industrial, commercial and other users; and
- (iv) Power Trading.

All the above would be subject to the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003.

#### **Coverage of RGGVY in Orissa**

892. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in Orissa;
- (b) by when the programme is expected to be completed;
- (c) the reasons for the slow progress of the work under RGGVY; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Central PSUs, entrusted with the work, did not expedite the work for which the scheme has not progressed in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 32 projects (4 projects in Tenth and 28 projects in Eleventh Plan) of Orissa covering electrification of 17,895 un/de-electrified villages and release of electricity connections to 31,85,863 BPL households have been sanctioned. The coverage has provisionally been revised to 15,000 un-electrified villages and 31,99,270 BPL households respectively. As on 31.07.2011, the electrification works in 13,404 un/de-electrified villages have been completed and electricity connection to 23,83,339 BPL households have been released.

- (b) The remaining electrification works of sanctioned RGGVY projects are expected to be completed by 2012.