

Handling of POSCO by PGCIL

1381. SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) have failed miserably to handle and manage the affairs of POSCO, a power system operations venture;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government has decided to separate POSCO from the clutches of PGCIL and from an independent Government company;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken against the management of PGCIL for not managing the operational, developmental and market-oriented functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) has effectively handled the affairs of its subsidiary Company, Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO), as per the directives of Government of India.

PGCIL is one of the largest transmission utilities in the world and maintaining availability of its transmission network consistently over 99%. The Company has also modernised the Regional Load Despatch Centres (RLDCs) with the State-of-the-Art Load Despatch and Communication facilities and established National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC) for effective management of the grid operations. As regards Management of operational, developmental and market oriented function, POSOCO has effectively administered the same under guidance of PGCIL.

Further, the establishment of POSOCO as an independent wholly owned Government of India Company, under the administrative control of Ministry of Power, is under consideration of the Government of India.

Smart grid projects in the country

1382. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of smart grid projects running in the country;
- (b) the amount of annual expenditure that is being made on the development of smart grids by Government;
- (c) whether Government is providing any incentives to private sector for setting up smart grid projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government is taking any initiatives for promoting R & D of smart grid technologies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Power has shortlisted 14 distribution utilities across the country for undertaking Smart Grid pilot projects in Distribution Sector in India. At present, out of the above 14 smart grid pilot projects, one project at Puducherry is under implementation.

Government of India has approved 50% funding of projects (upto Rs. 200 Crores) for the 14 distribution Smart Grid pilot projects. Actual disbursement of Government of India share is yet to start.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) The 14 distribution Smart Grid Pilot Projects are being undertaking to test Smart Grid technologies like Advance Metering Infrastructure (AMI), latest communication and automation technologies etc. in Indian context and to facilitate further R&D on these technologies with reference to India specific requirements. Ministry of Power has also approved creation of Smart Grid Knowledge Centre at POWERGRID. In addition, there is also a proposal for setting up "Smart Grid Test Bed" at CPRI.

Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project

1383. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Western Regional Load Despatch Centre (WRLDC) is creating obstacles for the country's most competitive Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project (UMPP) to operate its plant to ensure that the merchant power producers sell power at Rs. 6-9 to these seven States;