

Ministry has identified 25 black spots each in 13 States and is taking short term, long term measures to improve these spots. Regional offices are being empowered to take necessary action to improve these black spots.

Power tariffs in Delhi

*199. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to increase the power tariff in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the surcharge on the tariff is also considerably increasing the amount of bill;
- (d) if so, whether Government would remove the surcharge from the bills; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) The Electricity Act, 2003 empowers the Appropriate Commission to fix tariff in accordance with the provisions of the Act, particularly with reference to the guiding principles stipulated under Section 61 of the Act. Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) is the Appropriate Commission for determination of power tariff in Delhi.

It has been informed by DERC that the Tariff Schedule for Financial Year 2014-15 has been issued by the Commission on 17.07.2014. The Commission has taken a conservative view while approving an average tariff increase of 8.32% for all the 3 DISCOMs – Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL), BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. (BRPL), BSES Yamuna Power Ltd. (BYPL) and 9.52% for New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC). However, on the other hand, DERC has informed that Power Purchase Cost Adjustment Charges (PPAC) of 6% for BRPL, 7% for TPDDL and 8% for BYPL is presently discontinued with the issuance of Revised Tariff Schedule *w.e.f.* 17th July, 2014. The issue will be revisited depending upon whether the cost of Power Purchase has gone up or down in the quarter July to September as compared to the base rate adopted in the Tariff Order FY 2014-15.

(c) to (e) In view of the revenue deficit for the DISCOMs, the Commission has decided to continue with a surcharge of 8% for – TPDDL, BRPL and BYPL and also for NDMC. This surcharge will help in reducing the present accumulated revenue gap / regulatory assets.