

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.135
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2021

DUES OWED BY DISCOMs

135. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of **POWER**
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the power producers' total dues owed by distribution companies or DISCOMs have increased manifold in the past few years;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to recover the dues from the power distribution companies?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) : As per 'Report on Performance of State Power Utilities' published by Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Ltd., the details of outstanding dues on account of purchase of power and fuel for Power Distribution Utilities for the years 2016-17 to 2018-19 are as given below:

	As on 31.03.2017	As on 31.03.2018	As on 31.03.2019
Payables for Purchase of power (Rs. Crore)	176,485	172,096	227,018
% increase in dues	-	-2.48%	31.91%

(c): Ministry of Power has highlighted the issue of clearing the power dues owed by the Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) in the meetings with the State. Letters have also been written to the States at various levels highlighting the performance of their Distribution Utilities, including the position of outstanding payables and receivables positions for clearing the same.

In order to tide over the liquidity problems of the power sector, exacerbated by the outbreak of COVID-19, the Government of India announced a Liquidity Infusion Scheme as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan on 13th May, 2020. Under this intervention, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) are extending special long term transition loans to Discoms for liquidating outstanding dues (as on 30.06.2020) of CPSE Gencos & Transcos, IPPs and RE generators. So far, loans to the extent of Rs.125,000 crore have already been sanctioned and Rs.46,074 crore have been disbursed. The disbursement under the long term transition loans have been linked with DISCOMs undertaking certain reform measures such as installing pre-paid smart meters, as well as laying down the trajectory for preventing AT& C losses, ACS-ARR gaps, recovery of subsidy and Government dues.
