

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.73
ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

IMPACT OF REVAMPED DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME

73 SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA:

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

- (a) the impact of the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) on the country's power sector, including but not limited to the financial support provided to DISCOMs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) under the scheme number of smart meters that have been installed in the urban and rural areas across India, if so, the State-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the benefits accrued to the consumers especially to the farmers and the lower-income groups from installing these smart meters?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER

(SHRI MANOHAR LAL)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.73 FOR REPLY ON 02.12.2024 REGARDING IMPACT OF REVAMPED DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME ASKED BY SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA.

(a). Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) was launched by the Government of India, in July 2021 with a total outlay of Rs 3,03,758 Cr including Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of Rs. 97,631 Cr. Improvement in financial sustainability and operational efficiency of the DISCOMs/Power Departments, i.e. distribution utilities, is one of the key objectives of the RDSS. The scheme envisages reducing the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses to 12-15% and Gap between Average Cost of Supply and Average Revenue Realised (ACS-ARR Gap) to Zero at pan-India level by 2024-25.

The scheme is designed to nudge the States/utilities to undertake necessary reforms for desired results. Based on performance of the utility against parameters mentioned under Result Evaluation Matrix of the RDSS, which include achievement against major financial & operational parameters, they are evaluated. Thus, assistance has been linked to performance.

To bring in the much needed financial discipline, there is a pre-qualification criteria under the scheme which includes timely payment of subsidy and Government department dues, no fresh creation of regulatory assets, timely publishing of financial accounts, timely filing of tariff/ true-up petitions and issuance of tariff/ true up orders etc.

Further, projects worth Rs. 2.77 lakh crore have been sanctioned under RDSS for loss reduction and smart metering works. Sanctioned works are at various stages of implementation and physical progress of ~17% has been achieved till date.

With collective effort of Centre and States/UTs, at the national level the AT&C loss of distribution utilities has reduced from 22.32% in FY2021 to 15.37% in FY2023 and the ACS-ARR gap has reduced from Rs. 0.69/kWh in FY2021 to Rs. 0.45/kWh in FY2023.

(b) : State-wise details of smart meters installed in the urban and rural areas across India under RDSS are given at **Annexure**.

(c) : Implementation of smart meters will provide several benefits to both DISCOMs and consumers. Some of the benefits a consumer will receive after shifting to smart metering system are as below:

- i. Smart meter allows tracking of consumption pattern and helps consumers to plan and manage their energy consumption.
- ii. Increased accuracy of meter reading by eliminating human errors associated with manual meter reading.
- iii. Prepaid billing helps economically weaker section of consumers to budget their resources more efficiently and recharge with smaller amounts as per their convenience.
- iv. Rebate on electricity bills to prepaid smart meter consumer.
- v. Facilitate net-metering for roof-top solar installation.

Under RDSS, smart meter installation is not mandated for farmers.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (b) OF THE STATEMENT LAID IN
REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO.73 ANSWERED IN THE RAJY SABHA
ON 02.12.2024 REGARDING IMPACT OF REVAMPED DISTRIBUTION
SECTOR SCHEME**

State-wise details of smart meters installed under RDSS

| State | Consumer Metering | | DT Metering | | Feeder Metering | | Total |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| | Rural | Urban | Rural | Urban | Rural | Urban | |
| Assam | 18,27,154 | 4,62,294 | 38,047 | 0 | 1,865 | 713 | 23,30,073 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2,35,733 | 1,50,241 | 0 | 13 | 54 | 805 | 3,86,846 |
| Bihar | 0 | 19,39,428 | 14,314 | 5,882 | 3,779 | 804 | 19,64,207 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1,28,268 | 4,32,937 | 8,796 | 13,268 | 2,642 | 2,565 | 5,88,476 |
| Gujarat | 55,096 | 1,64,336 | 7,346 | 23,247 | 0 | 0 | 2,50,025 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 13,343 | 29,578 | 59 | 300 | 103 | 31 | 43,414 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 400 | 600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 99 | 1,099 |
| Manipur | 0 | 77 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 77 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 11,287 | 10,01,965 | 0 | 5,411 | 0 | 1,479 | 10,20,142 |
| Maharashtra | 57,170 | 2,97,870 | 20,385 | 29,657 | 18,717 | 6,656 | 4,30,455 |
| Sikkim | 880 | 581 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1,549 |
| Tamil Nadu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 530 | 580 |
| Tripura | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 83 | 83 |
| Uttarakhand | 0 | 7 | 311 | 656 | 699 | 845 | 2,518 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 32,315 | 3,46,690 | 7,572 | 7,586 | 11,321 | 9,649 | 4,15,133 |
| West Bengal | 64,027 | 44,932 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,08,959 |
| Total | 24,25,673 | 48,71,536 | 96,830 | 86,020 | 39,230 | 24,347 | 75,43,636 |
