

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.149
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW ELECTRICITY POLICY

149 DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

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

- (a) whether Government is intending to develop and implement a New Electricity Policy, if so, the summary of its main features, including the policy's goals and objectives;
- (b) whether major stakeholders and State Governments will be included in the policy formulation process, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor, the feedback State Governments have provided regarding this issue; and
- (c) the measures the Central Government has undertaken in collaboration with State Governments to combat electricity theft, the specific details for each State?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) & (b) : The Central Government intends to formulate a new Electricity Policy to align with the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. As per Section 3 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the National Electricity Policy is prepared in consultation with State Governments and Central Electricity Authority.

(c) : The Electricity Act, 2003 includes various provisions to combat electricity theft. Additionally, Central Government has launched the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in July, 2021 with the objective of improving the operational efficiency and financial sustainability of the electricity distribution utilities in the country. The scheme aims to reduce pan-India Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses to 12-15% and the difference between Average Cost of Supply (ACS) – Average Revenue Realized (ARR) to zero. Under RDSS, smart metering works covering 19.79 crore consumers, 52.53 lakh distribution transformers and 2.11 lakh feeders have been sanctioned to 45 DISCOMs/ Power Departments i.e., distribution utilities in 28 States/ UTs.

Smart metering which facilitates energy accounting and energy auditing without any human intervention, has been identified as a key initiative under the scheme to identify theft-prone pockets and high loss areas. Prepaid smart metering of consumers is also one of the major components under the scheme which would help in improving the collection efficiency of distribution utilities. The state-wise details of sanctioned Smart Metering works are provided at **Annexure-I**.

Further, the scheme also provides financial assistance to distribution utilities for carrying out infrastructure works. These include replacement of bare conductors with covered conductors, using Low Tension Aerial Bundled (LT AB) cables and High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS) etc. which would help to combat theft. The state-wise sanctioned cost of Distribution Infrastructure and Smart Metering works under RDSS is provided at **Annexure-II**.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 149
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State wise Smart Metering Works sanctioned under RDSS

| Sl. No. | States/ UTs | Consumer Meters | DT Meters | Feeder Meters |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | A & N Islands | 83,573 | 1,148 | 114 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 56,08,846 | 2,93,140 | 17,358 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 2,87,446 | 10,116 | 688 |
| 4 | Assam | 63,64,798 | 77,547 | 2,782 |
| 5 | Bihar | 23,50,000 | 2,50,726 | 6,427 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 59,62,115 | 2,10,644 | 6,720 |
| 7 | Delhi | - | 766 | 2,755 |
| 8 | Goa | 7,41,160 | 8,369 | 827 |
| 9 | Gujarat | 1,64,81,871 | 3,00,487 | 5,229 |
| 10 | Himachal Pradesh | 28,00,945 | 39,012 | 1,951 |
| 11 | Jammu and Kashmir | 14,07,045 | 88,037 | 2,608 |
| 12 | Jharkhand | 13,41,306 | 19,512 | 1,226 |
| 13 | Kerala | 1,32,89,361 | 87,615 | 6,025 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 1,29,80,102 | 4,19,396 | 29,708 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 2,35,64,747 | 4,10,905 | 29,214 |
| 16 | Manipur | 1,54,400 | 11,451 | 357 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 4,60,000 | 11,419 | 1,324 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 2,89,383 | 2,300 | 398 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 3,17,210 | 6,276 | 392 |
| 20 | Puducherry | 4,03,767 | 3,105 | 180 |
| 21 | Punjab | 87,84,807 | 1,84,044 | 12,563 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 1,42,74,956 | 4,34,608 | 27,128 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 1,44,680 | 3,229 | 633 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | 3,00,00,000 | 4,72,500 | 18,274 |
| 25 | Tripura | 5,47,489 | 14,908 | 473 |
| 26 | Uttar Pradesh | 2,69,79,056 | 15,26,801 | 20,874 |
| 27 | Uttarakhand | 15,87,870 | 59,212 | 2,602 |
| 28 | West Bengal | 2,07,17,969 | 3,05,419 | 11,874 |
| | Grand Total | 19,79,24,902 | 52,52,692 | 2,10,704 |

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State wise Distribution Infrastructure and Smart Metering Works sanctioned under RDSS

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

| S. No. | States/ UTs | Sanctioned cost of Smart metering works | Sanctioned Cost of Distribution Infrastructure works | Total Sanctioned Cost |
|--------|---------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4=2+3 |
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 54 | 462 | 516 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 4,128 | 10,687 | 14,814 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 184 | 1,042 | 1,226 |
| 4 | Assam | 4,050 | 3,395 | 7,444 |
| 5 | Bihar | 2,021 | 8,406 | 10,427 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 4,105 | 3,964 | 8,070 |
| 7 | Delhi | 13 | 324 | 337 |
| 8 | Goa | 469 | 247 | 716 |
| 9 | Gujarat | 10,642 | 6,089 | 16,731 |
| 10 | Haryana | - | 6,797 | 6,797 |
| 11 | Himachal Pradesh | 1,788 | 2,327 | 4,115 |
| 12 | Jammu & Kashmir | 1,064 | 4,771 | 5,835 |
| 13 | Jharkhand | 858 | 3,344 | 4,202 |
| 14 | Karnataka | - | 34 | 34 |
| 15 | Kerala | 8,231 | 3,011 | 11,243 |
| 16 | Ladakh | - | 876 | 876 |
| 17 | Madhya Pradesh | 8,911 | 9,384 | 18,295 |
| 18 | Maharashtra | 15,215 | 17,209 | 32,424 |
| 19 | Manipur | 121 | 615 | 737 |
| 20 | Meghalaya | 310 | 1,232 | 1,542 |
| 21 | Mizoram | 182 | 319 | 500 |
| 22 | Nagaland | 208 | 461 | 668 |
| 23 | Puducherry | 251 | 84 | 335 |
| 24 | Punjab | 5,769 | 3,873 | 9,642 |
| 25 | Rajasthan | 9,715 | 17,427 | 27,142 |
| 26 | Sikkim | 97 | 416 | 514 |
| 27 | Tamil Nadu | 19,235 | 9,568 | 28,803 |
| 28 | Telangana | - | 120 | 120 |
| 29 | Tripura | 319 | 598 | 917 |
| 30 | Uttar Pradesh | 18,956 | 21,612 | 40,568 |
| 31 | Uttarakhand | 1,106 | 1,717 | 2,823 |
| 32 | West Bengal | 12,670 | 7,223 | 19,893 |
| | Grand Total | 1,30,671 | 1,47,635 | 2,78,306 |
