

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:215
ANSWERED ON:03.07.2009
REFORMS IN POWER SECTOR
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been delay in implementing power sector reforms in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken for their speedy implementation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b) : No, Madam, since reforms in power sector are an on-going process.

(c) : Electricity is a concurrent subject. The Central Government has taken various reform initiatives, such as:

1. The Electricity Act, 2003 has put in place a liberal and progressive legal framework including features like open access, non-requirement of license for generation and freely permitting captive power plants.
2. An independent regulatory framework at Centre and State levels.
3. The Appellate Tribunal for Electricity under the Electricity Act, 2003 has been made operational facilitating expeditious settlement of disputes.
4. The Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for assisting the States in investment in sub-transmission and distribution segments and also for incentivizing better financial performance by the state Power Utilities.
5. Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana with 90% capital subsidy from the Central Government for providing access to electricity in rural areas. The scheme gives a special emphasis on mechanisms for improved revenue collection.
6. The Tariff Policy notified under the Act provides for competitive procurement of power in a transparent manner in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Government.