

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4601
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010
NON-COMPLIANCE WITH ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003
Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several State Governments and the power distribution companies in the country including Maharashtra are not complying with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003;
- (b) if so, the facts and details in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure due compliance of the Act?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : Electricity is a concurrent subject. The Central Government as well as the State Governments are required to take measures conducive to the development of power sector.

Distribution of electricity comes within the purview of the States. The distribution companies (DISCOMs) are regulated by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERCs) under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003.

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has informed that the provisions of Section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003, relating to advance payment of subsidy is not being followed by all States. The Secretary (Power) had requested Chief Secretaries of all State Governments to undertake a thorough review of the present subsidies in power tariffs with the objective of targeting the needy and poor; and also gradually moving towards a system of providing direct subsidies. The Government has been discussing power sector issues with the State Governments from time to time.