

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:888

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011

ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003

Singh Rajkumari Ratna; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a provision in the Electricity Act, 2003 to hand over power distribution to private sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of private companies working in the distribution sector in the country at present and the date from which they are operating;
- (c) whether the said Act does not have a provision to review or conduct survey of work to be undertaken by these companies so that people may get information about these companies; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): Section 131 of the Electricity Act 2003 provides for transfer of property, interest in property, rights and liabilities vested in the State Government to be re-vested in Government Company or in a company or companies.
- (b): Based on the information available the details of private companies working in the distribution sector are given at Annex.
- (c) & (d): Under Section 76 of the Electricity Act 2003 Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and under Section 82 of the said Act State Electricity Regulatory Commissions are functioning at centre and state levels respectively to monitor and review the work of these companies.

In order to protect the interest of the consumers Sections 57, 58, 59 and 60 of the Act empower the Appropriate Commission to specify the standard of performance of licensee, to receive and publish the information with respect to level of performance, and to issue direction to prevent abuse of dominant position of a licensee.