

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1389
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011
OPEN ACCESS SYSTEM
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the decision to open access system which will enable power producers to sale electricity to the power consumers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the decision in this regard is likely to be implemented and the extent to which it is likely to help producers and consumers?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Open Access is defined in Section 2(47) of the Electricity Act, 2003 as, 'Non-discriminatory provision for the use of transmission lines or distribution system or associated facilities with such lines or system by any licensee or consumer or a person engaged in generation in accordance with the regulations specified by the Appropriate Commission'. Open access in transmission has been introduced to promote competition amongst the generating companies who can sell to different licensees and consumers across the country. Open access to distribution networks by the respective State Commissions enables bulk consumers to buy directly from competing generators. The competition in the market is expected to result in increasing availability of power at competitive rates.

Open Access in inter-state transmission is effective. Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has notified regulations on open access in inter-State transmission. A statement indicating the volume of transactions in inter-State transmission is at Annex-I.

At State level, implementation of Intra-State Open Access rests with the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. As per information available with Forum of Regulators (FOR), detailed status of implementation of intra-State open access is at Annex-II.