

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3153
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
SOUTH-EAST ASIA POWER GRID
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Bangladesh have been entrusted with the task of giving a final shape to the South-East Asia power Grid;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of States where the electricity would be traded;
- (d) whether it is proposed to set up a submarine cable for transmission of power between the countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : No, Madam. India and Bangladesh have not been entrusted with the task of giving final shape to South Asia Power Grid. However, in the 2nd Meeting of Expert Group on Electricity of South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) held on 18th January, 2011 in Udaipur, India, it was proposed that Draft Concept Papers on following topics would be prepared by India and Bangladesh:

Draft Concept Papers to be prepared by India

(i) Framework for planning cross-border transmission links and associated system strengthening through joint system studies; methodology for implementation of trans-country transmission infrastructure including financing arrangements, ownership and security of assets.

(ii) Operation of stable and secure SAARC Electricity grids; coordinated scheduling and settlements procedures for long-term and short-term cross-border electricity exchange/trade.

Draft Concept Paper to be prepared by Bangladesh

Structures, functions and institutional mechanisms for SAARC regulatory issues on electricity exchange/trade.

(c) : After formation of the SAARC grid/South Asia Power grid, it may be possible to trade electricity among the SAARC Member States. Presently, electricity is being traded between India & Bhutan and between India & Nepal.

(d) & (e) :

(i) A feasibility study is being undertaken for interconnecting the electricity grids of India and Sri Lanka through a submarine cable and overhead lines. In this, feasibility of establishment of a HVDC transmission system of 1000 MW capacity using overhead lines and undersea cables from Madurai in India upto Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka is being studied. The feasibility study is being jointly funded by Government of India and Government of Sri Lanka on 50:50 basis.

(ii) Tentative configuration of the proposed India-Sri Lanka grid Inter-connection is as follows:

(A) Indian Territory:

(i) Madurai(existing) – Madurai(HVDC) – 50 km(aprox.)

(ii) Madurai(HVDC) – Panaikulam – 130 km(approx.)

(B) Sea Route: Panaikulam(India) to Thirukketiswaram(Sri Lanka) – 120 km(approx.)

(C) Sri Lankan Territory:

Thirukketiswaram - New Anuradhapura – 110 km (approx.)

(iii) The exact configuration of the India-Sri Lanka grid inter-connection would be decided after completion of the feasibility study.