GOVERNMENT OF INDIA POWER LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3309 ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012 RATING OF POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES Kumar Shri P.;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rating agencies such as CRISIL India Limited, ICRA Limited and CARA have lowered the ratings of certain power distribution companies and make it tougher for operators to access bank loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the power sector officials blame the Union and State Governments on policy reforms for the plight of power sector, sharp rise in coal prices, inadequate supply of coal and environmental clearance for power projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Information regarding lowering the ratings of certain power distribution companies by CRISIL India Limited, ICRA Limited and CARE is not available with Ministry of Power.

However, the information received by Power Finance Corporation(PFC) from these rating agencies (CRISIL, CARE and ICRA) with respect to specific instrument/facility which do not represent overall rating of the concerned Discom is at Annex.

(c)& (d): No, Madam. However, Power Utilities and CPSUs have been expressing concern about inadequate supply of coal as well as coal prices, non receipt of timely environmental clearance for power projects.