

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:20
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
REGULATOR FOR POWER SECTOR
Sivasami Shri C.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a strong and enlightened regulator for the power sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide State regulators greater autonomy in tackling issues that are hampering growth in the power sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has held discussions with State Electricity Regulatory Commissions with regard to amendment in the Electricity Act, 2003 in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) : The Electricity Regulatory Commissions (ERC) Act, 1998 provided for creation of the Regulatory Commissions at the Centre and in the States. The ERC Act, 1998 has since been replaced by the Electricity Act, 2003. The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) created under the provisions of the ERC Act, 1998 has been recognized as the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission under the Electricity Act, 2003. Similarly, the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) have been established by the respective States Governments.

The provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, the rules & regulations framed thereunder do provide for autonomy to the Electricity Regulatory Commissions (ERCs) in discharge of their functions in an impartial and transparent manner.

(c) : As regards providing greater autonomy to the State Regulators in tackling issues that are hampering growth in the power sector, the same falls under the domain of the concerned State Governments who are empowered to frame rules in this regard and are the Appropriate Government.

(d) to (f) : Do not arise in view of the reply above.