

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:82

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012

LOSSES OF STATE ELECTRICITY BOARDS

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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of the States which provide free electricity to farmers along with the electricity consumed annually for agricultural purposes during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the details of annual losses incurred by various State Electricity Boards (SEBs) during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Maharashtra;
- (c) whether the SEBs/power distribution companies are reeling under constant losses in spite of introduction of Re-structured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to improve power generation, distribution and reduce the losses of SEBs/power distribution companies of the country?

Answer

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

(a) : As per the information available, following States are providing free electricity to their agricultural consumers with certain conditions:

| State | Remarks |
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| Karnataka | Free electricity for consumers having 10 HP pumps. |
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| Andhra Pradesh | It is available free for farmers who participate in Demand Side Management (DSM) and:- |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- have wet land up to 2.5 acres; or- If with dry land then only up to 3 connections per farmer. |
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| | These consumers are also charged Rs.20 per month as customer charges. |
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| Puducherry | Free electricity for small farmers with land holding not exceeding 2.5 acres of wetland or 5 acres of dry land but they are charged Rs.50/- per HP per annum as a fixed/demand charge. |
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| Madhya Pradesh | Free electricity only for SC/ST agriculture consumers with land holding up to 1.0 hectare and up to 5 HP pump set. |
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| Tamil Nadu | Free to all agriculture consumers |
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Chhattisgarh - Free up to 6000 units per annum for farmers with load
up to 3 HP and up to 7500 units per annum for farmers
with load between 3 HP to 5 HP.

Details of electricity supply to agriculture for the years 2008-09 to 2010-11 are at Annex-A. State wise details of electricity supply to agriculture for the year 2011-12 & current year are not available.

(b) to (d) : As per PFC report on 'Performance of state Power Utilities for the years 2008-09 to 2010-11', based on the account details provided by the utilities, most of the utilities selling directly to consumers have incurred losses during the period 2008-09 to 2010-11. Details are given in Annex-B.

State/Discom wise data pertaining to the year 2011-12 and current year is not available.

(e) : Distribution of power is the responsibility of the Discoms. Central Government acts as a facilitator in supplementing the efforts of States to provide power to consumers in an improved manner.

The steps taken by the Union Government to improve the power generation in the country are given in Annex-C.

The steps taken by the Union Government to improve distribution sector and to reduce the losses of SEBs/power distribution companies of the country are given in Annex-D.