

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1398  
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2009  
OVERDRAWAL OF POWER FROM THE CENTRAL GRID  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has issued directions to the State Governments to curb overdrawal of power from the Central Grid;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in spite of these instructions, the States are overdrawing power from the Central Grid;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a): Under the Electricity Act, 2003, the functions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) inter-alia include regulation of Inter-State transmission of electricity and specify Grid Code. The directions for curbing the over-drawal are, therefore, primarily issued by the CERC.

(b): The Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) specified by CERC provides that the constituent States, through their State Load Despatch Centres (SLDCs), shall always endeavour to restrict their net drawal from the grid to within their respective drawal schedules, whenever the system frequency is below 49.5 Hz. When the frequency falls below 49.2 Hz., requisite load shedding shall be carried out in the concerned State (s) to curtail the over-drawal. The Regional Load Despatch Centre (RLDC), being the designated apex body to ensure integrated operation of the power system in the concerned region, is inter-alia entrusted with the function of giving such directions and exercising such supervision and control as may be required for ensuring stability of grid operations in the region under its control. As part of this process, RLDCs in real time issue messages to the concerned State / Utilities who are found to be violating the grid operation norms. These messages are based on the frequency and also the quantum and sustained nature of the over-drawals. In case, the over-drawals persist despite the messages, RLDC also resorts to physical opening of certain inter-connectors to contain the over-drawals. In addition to weekly reporting of over-drawals at low frequency, cases of persistent over-drawals at low frequency, where adequate remedial action were not taken by the States are also brought to the attention of CERC by RLDC through Petitions. IEGC also provides that in case of persistent non-compliance of any of the provisions of IEGC, the matter shall be reported by any agency/RLDC to Member Secretary, Regional Power Committee (RPC). The Member Secretary, RPC shall verify and take-up the matter with the defaulting agency for expeditious termination of the non-compliance. In case of inadequate response to the efforts made by the Member Secretary, RPC, the non-compliance shall be reported to CERC. CERC in-turn, after due process, may order the defaulting agency for compliance, failing which, the CERC may take appropriate action.

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has also taken many steps to curb over-drawal by the States/Utilities. Suo-motu proceedings had been initiated against the utilities in States like, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Rajasthan, etc. and penalties have been imposed. In some cases penalty was also imposed on responsible officers by the Commission of the concerned States/Utilities.

Several Adjudication cases were also taken up by the Commission on the petitions filed by Regional Load Despatch Centres (RLDCs) against the States/Utilities over-drawing from grid and endangering the grid security. Penalties were imposed on the utilities in Delhi, Punjab, J&K, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan through the adjudication process on the complaint by Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre (NRLDC).

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): The drawal of power by the States from the Grid varies on month to month basis and day to day basis and also in real-time depending on the demand for electricity and its availability from various sources at any point of time. The State/UT-wise details of schedule and drawal of energy during April to October, 2009 in respect of those States/UTs which have over-drawn energy are enclosed at Annex. The primary reason for over-drawal of electricity by the beneficiaries from the Grid is their tendency to supply electricity beyond their legitimate share and availability from their own sources.

(e): CERC has specified Regulations for Unscheduled Interchange (UI) charges and related matters in 2009. These Regulations inter-

alia specify the frequency linked UI charges to be paid for over-drawal by the buyer or beneficiary. In addition to the UI rate corresponding to frequency of 49.2 Hz., additional UI charges are levied below 49.2 Hz. at the rate of 40% of the UI rate corresponding to frequency of 49.22 Hz. Provisions have also been made for review of UI and additional UI charges by CERC on a six-monthly basis or earlier.

The matter is also taken up by the Central Transmission Utility and Ministry of Power whenever required. Recently, in view of consistent over-drawal of power by Uttar Pradesh at frequencies below 49.2 Hz., the matter was taken up by the Ministry of Power with Government of Uttar Pradesh.