

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:256
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013
OPEN ACCESS POLICY UNDER ELECTRICITY ACT
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of Open Access Policy envisaged under the Electricity Act, 2003 in the country along with the details of the States which do not allow open access to the consumers whose demand exceeds one mega watt;
- (b) the details of those State Electricity Regulatory Commissions which continue to set the retail energy tariff along with the details of the action taken/being taken by the Government against those State Electricity Regulatory Commissions which have not adhered to the provisions of the Open Access Policy;
- (c) whether the competition generated by the Open Access Policy has led to a reduction in electricity tariff; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 256 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 14.03.2013 REGARDING OPEN ACCESS POLICY UNDER ELECTRICITY ACT.

(a) Open Access in inter-state transmission envisaged under the Electricity Act, 2003 has been implemented by the Central Commission by specifying the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in Inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Middle Term Open Access) Regulations, 2009. The responsibility of introduction of open access at intra-state level as per provisions of the Electricity Act vests with the State/Joint Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

(b) As per information available, State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) of Rajasthan, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh have passed orders with specific reference to the question of tariff determination for consumers whose demand exceeds one Mega Watt. For the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions, the Appropriate Governments are the concerned State Governments under the Electricity Act, 2003.

(c) & (d) Open Access to consumers seeks to introduce competition in the Distribution sector and is expected to result in consumer benefits in a regime of market discovered tariff.