

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5806
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013
JOINT ELECTRICITY COMMISSION
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for setting up of Joint Electricity Commission under the Electricity Act, 2003 in the various Union Territories particularly in Lakshadweep;
- (b) whether under Section 8 of the Electricity Act, 2003, Lakshadweep is exempted from setting up of such a body as it is classified as a rural area;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for existence of such a body in Lakshadweep;
- (d) whether this body can set power tariff under the existing rules and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to disband this Commission; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) : Section 83 (1) of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides for constitution of Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission by an agreement to be entered into by the Central Government in respect of one or more Union Territories, and one or more State Governments. The JERC for UTs except Delhi has been constituted by the Central Government through Ministry of Power vide notification dated 02.05.2005 under the above statutory provision. JERC for UTs was set up after discussion with Ministry of Home Affairs, which is the nodal Ministry for UTs and after obtaining legal advice from Department of Legal Affairs. This was also keeping in view the fact that the scale of operations in the power sector in the remaining six Union Territories (except Delhi) were of such magnitude as could be adequately taken care of by a single Joint Commission.
- (b) & (c) : No, Madam. Section 8 of Electricity Act, 2003 does not deal with the exemption from setting up of a regulatory body for rural areas.
- (d) : Yes, Madam. JERC is empowered to set power tariff under Section 86 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- (e) & (f): No, Madam. There is no proposal to disband this Commission.