

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5852  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013  
ELECTRICITY TO FARMERS  
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi

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

- (a) whether there is any programme of the Union Government to provide electricity to farmers at concessional rates in view of the recurring drought and floods in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to supply power from the Central Grid to the State Grids to tide over the power crisis in the Southern States like Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) 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) & (b): Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State to different categories of consumers/sectors including agriculture comes under the purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utility. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the state Governments by establishing power plants in Central Sector through Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs). The Central Government allocates power to the States/UTs from Central Generating Stations (CGSs) to mitigate the overall shortage of power. As per the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003, the State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERCs) have the power to fix the tariff for the sale of electricity to consumers including farmers. Section 65 of the Act provides that in case the State Government likes to subsidise any consumer or class of consumers, the State Government shall pay to the concerned Utility/licensee the full amount required for the purpose.

(c) & (d) : The Southern Grid is already connected with Central Grid asynchronously through 2 nos. of HVDC (High Voltage Direct Current) Back to Back Stations at Gazuwaka (1000 MW), Chandrapur (1000 MW) and Talcher- Kolar HVDC Bipole (2000/2500 MW) totaling more than 4000 MW and is already supplying power to Southern States including Andhra Pradesh.

In order to facilitate additional supply of power from Central Grid to Southern Grid, a number of transmission lines are taken up, which also includes synchronous interconnection by establishing through 2 single circuits (2xS/C) of 765 kV Extra High Voltage (EHV) AC transmission line from Raichur (Karnataka) to Sholapur (Maharashtra). The details of transmission lines taken up by POWERGRID are attached at Annex.