

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4325
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014
SNAPPING OF POWER CABLES
Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the power cables of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) often snap and fall on the fields of the farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the quantum of loss of crops and the number of farmers died during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether any compensation is paid to the farmers or their families by the power companies in case of death or destruction of crops caused due to falling electric wires in their field; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the number of farmers or their families who have been compensated during 2013 and the current year, year-wise and if not, the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : POWERGRID is engaged in bulk power transfer through its Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) which mainly consists of Extra High Voltage (EHV) network of 400kV and above. POWERGRID uses the state-of-art technology in design and construction of secure transmission lines. In order to prevent/minimize such incidents the line alignment is generally kept away from inhabited/urban areas and routed mostly through barren lands/ fields. Notwithstanding, there are very few incidents of snapping/falling of electric wires leading to some damage. However, there is no damage to crops and no fatal accident has occurred during the last three years and current year due to snapping of electric lines of POWERGRID.

(d) & (e) : As no damage to crop or death of farmers was caused due to snapping and falling of electric wires during 2013 and current year, no compensation was required to be paid on this account.

However, during restoration/ stringing of snapped lines, whenever any crops are damaged, compensation is paid to the farmers as per rates provided by the local Revenue Authorities. No such compensation has also been disbursed in the year 2013 and the current year.