

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1962
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2014
DEATHS DUE TO ELECTROCUTION
Sigrival Shri Janardan Singh

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of people have reportedly died due to electrocution by high tension wires passing through inhabited/urban areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and number of such deaths reported during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of directives/warnings issued by the Government to the nearby residents from time to time;
- (d) whether the Government has devised any action plan to address the issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): Electricity is a concurrent subject and the distribution of electricity in a State is in the purview of the concerned State Government / Power Utility. The High Tension wires, which have the voltage level between 650 Volt (V) and 33000 V, are with the Distribution Companies under respective State Governments which are enforcing the safety regulations. The details of electrical accidents including from High Tension (HT) wires as received from the States by the Central Electricity Authority for three years upto 2012-13 are at Annex.

(c) : The accidents due to high tension wire generally happen due to unauthorized construction and extension of the building violating the statutory clearances. Notices are served to the residents by the officials of concerned utilities with copies to Municipality / Police to remove the unauthorized structures raised under the HT/Overhead lines. Warning letters are also issued to the house owners who extend the structures/house balcony/boundary wall etc. which are very close to power lines. The warning letters/notices clearly state the minimum safe clearance from the power lines of different voltage and reference clause of Rules/Regulation/Electricity Act.

(d) & (e) : While laying of Overhead lines, Distribution companies of States/UTs ensure sufficient vertical and horizontal clearance in accordance with the provisions of the Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to safety and Electric Supply) Regulation, 2010. The minimum required clearances for HT lines are:

(1) Vertical clearance: 3.7 Metres.

(2) Horizontal clearance: (i) between lines of 650 V to 11000 V - 1.2 Metres.
(ii) from 11000 V to 33000 V - 2.0 Metres.

Any violation of the above clearances would make it vulnerable for electrical accidents. The Distribution Companies are required to maintain compliance of the regulations to be danger-free.