

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.78**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2017

**DECLINE IN COST OF POWER**

78. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

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

- (a) whether the cost of power has come down after the advent of non-conventional energy like wind power, bio-mass, bio-gas and solar power;
- (b) whether some States are purchasing expensive power from private players when it is available at lower rates elsewhere;
- (c) whether the Ministry has developed a software to keep track of power costs to enable power utilities to stick to the merit order; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps to rein in States?

**A N S W E R**

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

( SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL )

**(a):** Power is generated from different sources of energy and in different plants at different costs depending on parameters which include inter-alia technology, location, Capital cost, Fuel etc. Cost of power from renewable energy sources also varies accordingly. Lowest tariff of Solar power has been discovered at Rs 2.44/Kwhr during 2017-18 for Bhadla Solar Park, Rajasthan.

**(b) :** States/power utilities have various power purchase agreement in force and usually follow the cost optimization principle in procuring power to meet their demand.

**(c) & (d) :** Ministry of Power in association with POSOCO and Central Electricity Authority has developed a Web portal and a Mobile App to bring transparency in Merit order scheduling & despatch and ensure most economic system operation. The web portal 'MERIT' (Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency) and Mobile App displays power procurement related data transparently to all Stakeholders.

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