

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1592
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2022

REFORMS IN POWER SECTOR

1592 SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

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

- (a) whether the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu urged the Union Government to reconsider the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, in view of large scale protests by the trade unions and public at large;
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereon;
- (c) whether Government would allow the State owned distribution licensees, DISCOMS to continue supply of quality power at subsidised rates to the farmers, and at affordable rates to the people;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (e) : There are no large scale protests against the amendment Bill. The Bill does not propose any change in the present system of giving subsidised electricity to the farmers and the people. The Bill does not propose to stop or prevent or curtail the functioning of the State owned distribution licensees/DISCOMs. They can continue functioning as before. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had written to the Union Government about the Bill. That letter was replied to by the Minister of Power.

There is no provision in the Bill which affects the farmers. The provision of subsidy as in the present Act i.e. Electricity Act, 2003 is not proposed to be changed and the State Governments can continue to give subsidy to farmers and other consumers as they are doing at present.
