

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.148
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

**RECURRING TRANSMISSION BOTTLENECKS AND RENEWABLE POWER
CURTAILMENT IN TAMIL NADU**

148. SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government is aware of recurring transmission bottlenecks and renewable power curtailment in the State of Tamil Nadu during peak solar and wind generation periods;
- (b) the details of central assistance sanctioned, released and utilised under RDSS and other schemes for strengthening intra-State transmission, substations and evacuation corridors in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether Government proposes grid-scale storage, pumped hydro and balancing mechanisms to address intermittency and prevent curtailment while protecting DISCOM finances; and
- (d) the timeline for upgrading southern regional grid capacity to ensure reliable supply for households, MSMEs and energy-intensive industries in Tamil Nadu?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a): Presently, there is no curtailment of Renewable Energy (RE) generation integrated with Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) in Tamil Nadu. However, as reported by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) Ltd., RE curtailment is experienced in Intra-State Transmission System (InSTS) during high wind and solar season due to overloading of 400 kV Kanarpatti- Abhishekapatti line where bay extension works are under implementation.

(b): (i) Under Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Schemes Phase I and II of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), ₹766.86 crore has been sanctioned as Central Finance Assistance (CFA) for strengthening InSTS in the State of Tamil Nadu, of which ₹529.28 crore has been released.

(ii) Under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), for the State of Tamil Nadu, a total outlay of ₹28,803 crore has been sanctioned for projects worth ₹ 9,568 crore towards loss reduction works and ₹19,235 crore towards smart metering works. As on 30.06.2026, out of the sanctioned Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of ₹9,139 crore, ₹1,498 crore has been released, and ₹1,106 crore has been utilised.

(c): To address the intermittency associated with renewable energy sources and to ensure reliable power supply, the Government is promoting grid-scale energy storage and hybrid renewable energy solutions. In this regard:-

(i) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission through the Connectivity and General Network Access to the Inter-State Transmission System (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2025 has introduced solar-hour and non-solar-hour connectivity, enabling optimal use of transmission infrastructure and promoting hybrid renewable projects combining solar, wind and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). As 15.07.2026, 276 applications involving 71GW/185 GWh of BESS capacity have been received.

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(ii) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has prepared a roadmap for integration of about 100 GW of Pumped Storage Project (PSP) capacity during 2025-26 to 2035-36, which includes about 21.3 GW of PSP potential identified in Tamil Nadu. The associated transmission system for evacuation of power from these PSPs shall be planned and developed in a phased manner, in line with the progress of the respective projects and system requirements.

(iii) To facilitate the integration of RE in the country, two Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Schemes for setting up a total 43.8 GWh of BESS capacity with a budgetary support of ₹ 9,160 crore are under implementation. Tamil Nadu has been allocated 2,500 MWh of BESS capacity with VGF of ₹540 crore.

(d): The Southern Regional Grid is well interconnected with the National Grid through high-capacity transmission corridors comprising 765 kV and 400 kV AC transmission lines and ± 800 kV HVDC systems, facilitating transfer of power through ISTS network between the Southern Region and other States/Regions. Power transfer capacities are strengthened on a continual basis to address emerging power transfer scenarios with reliability and security.

Further, various Inter-Regional links, including the Narendra–Pune 765 kV Double Circuit (D/c) line, Angul–Srikakulam 765 kV 2nd D/c line and Bidar–Parli 765 kV D/c line are under implementation, to facilitate the import requirements of Southern Region during peak demand season.
