

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2430
ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026

**SAFETY AUDIT AND STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF HIGH-TENSION
ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINES AND POLES**

2430 DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government, in coordination with the State Governments, has established any mechanism to inspect the structural integrity and safety of high-tension (HT) electricity transmission lines and poles across the country, particularly in view of accidents caused by their collapse;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made it mandatory for electricity utilities/distribution companies to carry out periodic inspections of high-tension electricity transmission lines and poles and submit reports on their condition; and
- (d) if so, the periodicity of such inspections and the mechanism in place to monitor compliance with these requirements?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d): The Central Government has established mechanism for ensuring the safety of electric lines through technical standards notified by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). In this regard, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) [Technical Standards for Construction of Electrical Plants and Electric Lines] Regulations, 2022 contain specific provision for strengthening of poles and wires. Further, transmission lines should be assessed and re-strengthened, where required, in accordance with Indian Standard IS- 802:2015.

CEA [Measures relating to safety and electrical supply] Regulation, 2023, specify safety measures for construction, operation and maintenance of power stations, substations, transmission and distribution lines. These regulations lay down the safety measures for electrical installations and provide for periodic inspection and testing of electrical installations. Further, the regulation requires periodic inspection or self-certification of electrical installations including electric lines by supplier, owner or consumer. The Appropriate Government shall decide voltage level and periodicity, provided that the periodicity of electrical inspection and self-certification shall not exceed five years.

.....2.

Periodic inspection of Electrical installations including electric lines of voltage above the notified voltage are carried out by the Electrical Inspector. For electric lines of voltage equal to or below the notified voltage, the supplier, owner or consumer has the option to get his installation inspected and tested by an Electrical Inspector of the Appropriate Government or by periodic self-certification with the assistance of Chartered Electrical Safety Engineer (CESE), authorized by the Appropriate Government.

Guidelines for authorising Chartered Electrical Safety Engineers were prepared by CEA in 2018. These guidelines for authorising Chartered Electrical Safety Engineers (CESEs) are being revised by CEA as per suggestions by stakeholders. A structured certification programme for Chartered Electrical Safety Engineers (CESEs) is also being prepared by CEA to ensure uniform competency standards across states. These steps would make the CESE framework more effective.

A digital reporting and compliance mechanism for electrical safety inspections of Central Government installations is already operational through the National Single Window System (NSWS) portal. The portal enables online submission and processing of applications and facilitates monitoring of compliance with electrical safety requirements for Central Government installations.

Further, as per Electricity Act 2003, distribution of electricity is a licenced activity and it is the duty of the respective distribution licence to develop and maintain an efficient Safe and economical distribution system in its area of supply. Hence, it is the responsibility of the distribution utilities to take measures required for the operation and maintenance of distribution system including checking the strength of the poles oblique wires of high tension low tension lines to maintain quality and reliable power supply in its area of operation
