

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.943
ANSWERED ON 27.07.2026

Delay in smart meter installation

943 SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the implementation of smart metering under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS);
- (b) whether it is a fact that against 20.33 crore sanctioned smart meters, only 5.44 crore meters had been installed as of January 2026;
- (c) if so, the reasons for the shortfall;
- (d) the State-wise progress achieved; and
- (e) the revised timeline for completion of the programme?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (e): Under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), smart metering works for 19.79 crore consumers, 52.53 lakh Distribution Transformers (DTs) and 2.05 lakh feeders, totaling 20.33 crore smart meters, have been sanctioned based on the proposals submitted by the States/ distribution utilities. Till date 5.73 crore smart meters have been installed under the scheme. In addition, smart meters have been installed by States under their State plans/ other schemes. Overall, 7.24 crore smart meters have been installed across the country under various schemes. The State/ UT-wise details of smart metering works under RDSS are placed at **Annexure**.

Initially there were some delays in the implementation of smart metering works due to following reasons:

- i. Initial delays in issuing model Request for Proposal (RFP) as Smart Metering being new technological initiative, establishment of test bed and empanelment of vendors for smart metering works.
- ii. Delay in tendering and awarding of works. Few utilities required longer time period for obtaining board approval issuance of tender documents etc.
- iii. Delay in signing of Contract and Direct Debit Facility (DDF) agreement by utilities.
- iv. Few utilities faced challenges in implementation in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.
- v. Inadequate consumer engagement exercise.

Following steps have been taken to address these challenges and accelerate the installation of smart meters:

- i. Installation of smart meters in Government establishments and for commercial, industrial and high load consumers has been prioritised for demonstration of benefits to other consumers.
- ii. Various advisories/ Standard Operating Procedures have been issued by the Ministry, including incentivising consumers for prepaid meter installation through rebate in bills; no penalty on consumers based on maximum demand recorded by smart meters; mechanism for recovery of past arrears in easy instalments; and installation of check meters for enhancing confidence in the accuracy of smart meters, etc.
- iii. Consumer awareness programs by the distribution utilities, and the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Service Providers (AMISPs), including distribution of pamphlets, banners and awareness canopies at high footfall areas, and social media outreach.
- iv. Smart meter mobile apps available for tracking of consumption of electricity and for easy recharge.

Further, the implementation of smart metering works under RDSS is reviewed regularly. The works are monitored through the Nodal Agencies, namely Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) and REC Ltd., and an Inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee headed by Secretary (Power) has been constituted to monitor their progress. At the State level, the Distribution Reforms Committee, chaired by the Chief Secretary of the respective State, oversees and monitors the implementation of the scheme. In addition, regular review meetings are held with the States/ distribution utilities and Advanced Metering Infrastructure Service Providers (AMISPs) to facilitate expeditious implementation of the sanctioned works. As a result, the works have picked up pace. The sunset date of the scheme is 31.03.2028.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 943 ANSWERED IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON 27.07.2026

State/ UT-wise Smart Metering work details under RDSS (as on 30.06.2026)

Sl. No.	State/ UT	Total Meters Sanctioned	Total Meters Installed
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	84,835	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	59,19,344	32,79,798
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2,98,250	84,899
4	Assam	64,45,127	55,44,334
5	Bihar	26,07,153	23,02,379
6	Chhattisgarh	61,79,479	42,23,010
7	Delhi	3,521	-
8	Goa	7,50,356	32,231
9	Gujarat	1,67,87,587	52,01,496
10	Himachal Pradesh	28,41,908	10,06,060
11	Jammu and Kashmir	14,97,690	9,70,776
12	Jharkhand	13,62,044	7,76,466
13	Kerala	1,33,83,001	1,92,942
14	Madhya Pradesh	1,34,29,206	41,90,181
15	Maharashtra	2,40,04,866	1,29,73,051
16	Manipur	1,66,208	64,399
17	Meghalaya	4,72,743	-
18	Mizoram	2,92,081	61,220
19	Nagaland	3,23,878	57,337
20	Puducherry	4,07,052	95,481
21	Punjab	89,81,414	14,662
22	Rajasthan	1,47,36,692	47,58,801
23	Sikkim	1,48,542	98,359
24	Tamil Nadu	3,04,90,774	9,746
25	Tripura	5,62,870	3,00,387
26	Uttar Pradesh	2,85,26,730	97,53,753
27	Uttarakhand	16,49,684	6,39,980
28	West Bengal	2,10,35,262	7,00,182
Total		20,33,88,297	5,73,31,930

Note: As on 30.06.2026, 5.73 crore smart meters have been installed under RDSS and total 7.24 crore smart meters have been installed across the country under various schemes including RDSS.
