

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.317
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2018**

PROVISION OF ELECTRICITY

**†317. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:
SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:**

**Will the Minister of POWER
be pleased to state the measures taken by the Union Government to
provide cheaper electricity particularly to common people and industrial
units at affordable prices during the last three years along with the
outcome thereof?**

A N S W E R

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER AND
NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY**

(SHRI R. K. SINGH)

**Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply and Distribution of
electricity at affordable rate to all category of consumers in a State/ UT
falls within the purview of respective State Government/State Regulatory
Commission and State Power Utility(ies).**

**The Government of India supplement the efforts of the State
Governments through various measures for improvement in power sector
to provide reliable and affordable electricity to all consumers including
common people and industrial units. The measures taken by the Union
Government during last three years are given at Annexure.**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 317
TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 19.07.2018.**

In line with the spirit of the Electricity Act, 2003 various measures have been taken by the Union Government to facilitate electricity to all consumers at affordable prices. The measures taken by the Union government during last three years includes:

- i. “DEEP (Discovery of Efficient Electricity Price)” e-Bidding Portal has been launched on 12th April, 2016 in order to bring uniformity and transparency in power procurement by the DISCOMs and also to promote competition in electricity sector.**
- ii. The Government on 4th May, 2016 has notified the "Flexibility in utilization of domestic coal for reducing the cost of power generation". The State can use their coal and take equivalent power from any other efficient generating stations at a cheaper cost as compared to the cost of generation from their own power stations. An e-bidding portal was launched on 5th July 2017 for providing e-Bidding solution to States to select Independent Power Producers (IPPs) for procurement of power by transferring their domestic coal under the scheme of flexibility in utilization of domestic coal.**
- iii. A Web Portal ‘MERIT’ i.e. Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency was launched on 23rd June 2017 .This Mobile App and Web Portal displays the actual data of dispatched generation by the states transparently and provides opportunity to states for improving their power purchase portfolio.**
- iv. Mobile Application named ‘Vidyut PRAVAH’ was launched on 31st March, 2016 to provide highlights of the power availability and prevailing rate in the Power Exchange on real time basis.**
- v. A mechanism for providing flexibility in Generation and Scheduling of Thermal Stations to reduce Emissions has been issued on 05.04.2018. Under the mechanism thermal power stations can use RE Power to meet the existing contractual commitments. Net gains arising out of such mechanism shall be shared between the Generator and Beneficiary of power station.**

- vi. Government of India on 17.5.2017 approved SHAKTI scheme for harnessing & allocating coal transparently in India. Coal linkage have been granted under B(i) provisions of SHAKTI policy to Central & State Generating companies at the notified price for 10 Projects of total 8870 MW capacity. Further under B(ii) provision of SHAKTI Policy, coal linkages to independent power producers (IPPs) with PPAs based on domestic coal have been granted to 10 projects of total 11549 MW capacity, based on bidding on discount on quoted Tariff. Lower cost of power will provide benefits to the consumers.**

- vii. The Government has started Third Party Sampling of Coal at both, loading and unloading end of Generators. There has been considerable improvement in the quality of coal supplied by the Coal India Limited. Due to improvement in coal quality and improvement in the efficiency of plants, there has been a reduction in specific coal consumption by coal based thermal power plants thus reducing the cost of power generation.**

- viii. To promote competitive procurement of electricity from Solar PV power plants and Wind power Plants, competitive bidding guidelines have been issued on 03.08.2017 and on 08.12.2017 respectively for long term procurement of electricity.**

These measures are aimed to lower the cost of electricity generation, increasing transparency in power procurement, improving efficiency and ultimately lower the cost of electricity for the end consumers.
