

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.135
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023**

POWER TRANSFORMERS IN BIHAR

135. SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether most of the power transformers remain impaired/non-functional due to the large number of customers availing power supply from these low Watt capacity transformers in rural areas of the country especially in Bihar;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise; and**
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (c) : As per Electricity Act 2003, distribution of electricity is a licensed activity and it is the duty of a distribution licensee to take necessary action for repairing / replacing the impaired transformers within a specified time limit as notified in Standards of Performance (SOP) by respective State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC) / Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC). SERCs/JERCs have issued the Standards of Performance to be followed by the Distribution utilities which also include the time line for repairing of any impaired distribution transformer in rural and urban areas.

Government of India vide notification dated 31st December, 2020 have also notified the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 wherein provisions regarding reliability of supply by the distribution licensee, standards of performance, compensation mechanism, provision of call centres for consumer services, grievance redressal mechanism etc. have been dealt with in detail.

The power supply to the number of consumers from a distribution transformer is generally provided by respective distribution utilities after taking into account the capacity of the transformer and the total contracted demand of consumers being supplied from a distribution transformer with a view to avoid overloading of transformers. Under various schemes of Government of India, a total of 6,95,035 no. of Distribution Transformers (DTs) have been installed upto 31.3.2022, including 87,401 no of DTs in Bihar.

It is the responsibility of respective Distribution Utilities to regularly upgrade & augment their distribution system including power/distribution transformers to avoid the overloading of the system and to meet the expected load of the area to provide quality and reliable power supply in their area of operation. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by launching various schemes from time to time to enable States to improve and augment their Sub-transmission and Distribution Infrastructure including transformers in rural & urban areas. Government of India launched DDUGJY, IPDS and Saubhagya schemes for providing funding to States/UTs for renovation and augmentation of Distribution Infrastructure in rural & urban areas in the country. Under DDUGJY/IPDS/Saubhagya schemes, central funding was provided to States for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution network including Power /distribution transformers in rural areas of the country, including Bihar, for electrification works and for providing reliable power supply to the consumers.

Government of India have recently approved Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) – Reforms based and Results linked Scheme with the objective of improving the quality and reliability of power supply to consumers through a financially sustainable and operationally efficient distribution sector. The Scheme has an outlay of Rs.3,03,758 crore and an estimated Gross Budgetary support of Rs 97,631 Crores from Govt. of India. The duration of the scheme is 5 Years (2021-22 to 2025-26). Under the scheme, eligible DISCOMs (all State-owned Distribution companies and State / UT Power Departments excluding private Sector power companies) are being provided financial support for upgradation of the Sub-transmission & Distribution Infrastructure, including Power/distribution Transformers along with IT intervention and communicable system metering & installation of pre-paid smart meters pan India for 25 crore consumers.
