

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.23
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023**

REVAMPED DISTRIBUTION SECTOR SCHEME

**23. SHRI DIPSINH SHANKARSINH RATHOD:
SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) has specific emphasis on improvement of energy efficiency for the State-owned power distribution companies;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds released and utilised under RDSS, discom-wise;**
- (c) whether the State-owned power distribution companies are advised to assess and absorb advanced techniques of minimizing the transmission and distribution losses adopted by best performing power distribution companies;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) : The Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)– A Reform based and Results linked scheme, launched by the Government of India, in July 2021, aims at transforming the electricity distribution sector. The estimated outlay of the scheme is Rs. 3,03,758 Crore with Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of Rs 97,631 crore from GoI. The main objective of the scheme is to improve the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of distribution sector so as to facilitate 24x7 quality and reliable power for all at affordable price. The scheme envisages target of reducing the AT&C losses to 12-15% at pan-India level and ACS-ARR gap to Zero by 2024-25.

The scheme provides for financial assistance to DISCOMs to implement prepaid smart metering for consumers and strengthening of distribution infrastructure based on a 2-tier evaluation framework comprising of (i) Pre-Qualification Criteria and (ii) Result Evaluation Matrix of various performance parameters with yearly targets. DISCOMs to qualify for receiving grant funds under the scheme need to mandatorily comply with the pre-qualifying criteria and also achieve basic minimum benchmarks score of 60% as per Result Evaluation Matrix approved for each of the DISCOMs. The Pre-Qualification criteria include timely publishing of audited annual accounts and un-audited quarterly accounts, timely release of subsidy and government department dues by State/UT, no new creation of regulatory assets, pre-paid metering of government departments, timely payment of GENCO dues and timely publishing of Tariff & True up Orders by Regulators. The Result Evaluation Matrix comprises of various performance parameters in four categories viz. i. Financial Sustainability, ii. Operational – Outcomes of infrastructure works, iii. Infrastructure works & iv. Policy & Structural Reforms, Capacity Building and IT/OT Enablement.

Reforms undertaken by DISCOMs under the scheme have started showing the desired results in first year itself. The average AT&C loss of distribution utilities in country has reduced from 22.32% in FY 2020-21 to 16.44% in FY 2021-22. Similarly, there has been an improvement in the average revenue realization by the DISCOMs. Timely payments of subsidy and Govt. department dues by State Governments have also contributed to increased revenue. All these have resulted in reduction of ACS-ARR gap for DISCOMs. The ACS-ARR gap has also significantly reduced from Rs. 0.69/kWh in FY 2020-21 to Rs. 0.15/kWh in FY 2021-22. As a result, financial health of the DISCOMs is improving and DISCOMs are in much better position to ensure quality and reliable power supply to its consumers.

The details of funds sanctioned and released is given in Annexure.

(c) to (e): Under RDSS, It has been envisaged to leverage advance technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Blockchain Technology to analyze data generated through IT/OT devices to enable the DISCOMs to take informed decisions on loss reduction, demand forecasting, asset management, Time of Day (ToD) tariff, Renewable Energy (RE) Integration and for other predictive analysis. This would contribute a great deal towards enhancing operational efficiency and financial sustainability of the DISCOMs. Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) under the Scheme would be used for development of applications related to the use of advanced ICT like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Blockchain Technology in the Distribution Sector.

In this regard, under Powerthon-2022, SINE-IIT Bombay has been appointed as Incubator by MOP. Key problem areas have been identified after discussions with DISCOMs. Technology Service Providers (TSPs) with capacity to solve the problems were identified which includes Startups, Non-Startups and individuals. Pilots were then conducted with DISCOMs with a corresponding problem statement.

Ministry of Power on a regular basis organizes Review, Planning & Monitoring Committee meetings which are attended by Principal Secretaries (Power) and CMDs/ MDs of Discoms of all States and UTs. In the meeting, States/ UTs who have adapted any good practice, showcases it to all other Discoms and the same can be adapted by any Discom for improving their efficiency.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.23
ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 20.07.2023**

Details of funds sanctioned and released under RDSS

State/Discoms	Sanctioned cost of metering (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned Cost of Loss Reduction including PMA (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS of Metering Works (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS of Infrastructure (Loss Reduction) Works (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Released GBS of Infrastructure (Loss Reduction) Works (till date) (Rs. Cr.)
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	53.56	462.01	12.25	415.81	
Andhra Pradesh	4,127.85	9,276.66	815.40	5,566.00	466.23
Arunachal Pradesh	183.56	799.99	54.40	719.99	35.47
Assam	4,049.54	2,609.10	1,051.65	2,348.19	198.86
Bihar	2,021.21	7,081.06	412.33	4,248.63	209.29
Chhattisgarh	4,105.31	3,597.55	804.43	2,158.53	106.33
Delhi	13.38	323.63	2.03	194.18	9.57
Goa	469.17	247.08	94.51	148.25	7.30
Gujarat	10,641.96	6,021.48	1,884.60	3,612.89	244.87
Haryana	4,966.62	3,158.43	909.36	1,895.06	93.36
Himachal Pradesh	1,788.49	1,774.90	466.23	1,597.41	84.81
Jammu & Kashmir	1,063.62	4,635.57	272.02	4,172.01	206.78
Jharkhand	858.02	3,262.27	190.50	1,957.36	96.42
Kerala	8,231.21	2,346.81	1,413.34	1,408.09	69.36
Ladakh	-	697.36		627.62	30.92
Madhya Pradesh	8,768.98	9,403.43	1,482.10	5,642.06	277.93
Maharashtra	15,214.95	14,157.92	2,839.61	8,494.75	423.67
Manipur	121.16	400.98	38.14	360.88	17.78
Meghalaya	309.56	796.49	86.35	716.84	35.31
Mizoram	181.61	237.33	61.08	213.59	10.52
Nagaland	207.57	391.18	59.66	352.06	
Puducherry	251.10	84.39	56.25	50.63	2.49
Punjab	5,768.50	3,873.37	959.80	2,324.02	114.48
Rajasthan	9,714.80	9,371.41	1,685.96	5,622.85	263.43
Sikkim	97.45	263.61	30.43	237.25	11.69
Tamil Nadu	19,235.36	9,066.27	3,398.45	5,439.76	267.97
Tripura	318.55	484.56	80.42	436.10	21.48
Uttar Pradesh	18,956.29	17,089.62	3,500.57	10,253.77	688.54
Uttarakhand	1,050.92	1,447.39	297.47	1,302.65	64.17
West Bengal	12,670.45	7,222.57	2,089.18	4,333.54	213.48
Grand Total	135,440.72	120,584.40	25,048.55	76,850.78	4272.51
