

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1398
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025**

UN-ELECTRIFIED HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AREAS

1398. SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:

SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:

SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:

SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:

PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:

DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:

SMT. SUPRIYA SULE:

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

- (a) the details of the number of willing un-electrified households in rural areas and all willing poor households in urban areas that were electrified under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana in Maharashtra during the last five years and the current year;**
- (b) whether the Government has launched Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the primary objectives of the RDSS along with the steps taken by the Government to improve the power distribution sector;**
- (d) the manner in which RDSS aligns with India's vision of providing reliable, affordable, and quality power to all citizens;**
- (e) the details of the specific targets set for reducing losses in distribution sector through RDSS along with the Government's plan to achieve these targets;**
- (f) the current status of RDSS implementation and the details of the States adopted the scheme;**
- (g) the details of the total budget allocation for RDSS and the funding being distributed among participating States; and**
- (h) the manner in which RDSS scheme benefit consumers in terms of reducing power outages and improving the reliability of electricity supply?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) : Government of India (GoI) launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) in October, 2017 with the objective to achieve universal household electrification for providing electricity connections to all willing un-electrified households in rural areas and all willing poor households in urban areas in the country.

As reported by the states, around 2.86 Cr. households have been electrified since the launch of SAUBHAGYA, up to 31.03.2022. For the State of Maharashtra, a total 5,89,242 households were electrified which included 5,42,914 and 15,790 number of households through grid in Rural and Urban areas respectively and 30,538 households in rural areas through off-grid mode. All sanctioned works have been completed under SAUBHAGYA and scheme stands closed as on 31.03.2022. Further, under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), electrification works for 9,036 households have been sanctioned for the State of Maharashtra under PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) and DA-JGUA (Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan).

(b) to (h) : RDSS was launched by the Government of India, in July 2021. The main objective of the scheme is to support Distribution utilities i.e. DISCOMs/Power Departments (PDs) to improve the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of distribution sector so as to provide quality and reliable supply of power. The scheme envisages reducing the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) Losses to 12-15% at pan-India level and Gap between Average Cost of Supply and Average Revenue Realised (ACS-ARR Gap) to Zero by 2024-25.

Total outlay of RDSS is Rs 3,03,758 Cr including Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of Rs. 97,631 Cr. The scheme duration is for 5 years (i.e. FY2021-22 to FY2025-26). 48 DISCOMs across 30 States/ UTs have participated under RDSS.

AT&C Losses and ACS-ARR Gap for a utility are the key financial and operational indicators of its performance. Losses directly impact the cash flow and affects their financial position thereby forcing them to supply costly electricity to consumers. Reduction in AT&C losses and ACS-ARR Gap improves the finances of these utilities, which will enable them to better maintain the system and buy power as per requirements; benefitting the consumers.

To address these losses, mandatory pre-qualifying criteria have been prescribed under the scheme which includes timely publishing of audited annual accounts & quarterly accounts, timely release of subsidy and Government department dues by States/UTs, no new creation of regulatory assets, pre-paid metering in Government establishments, timely payment of GENCO dues and timely publishing of tariff & true up orders. Based on performance of the utility against parameters mentioned under Result Evaluation Matrix, which include achievement against major financial & operational parameters, they are evaluated. Thus, assistance has been linked to performance.

Further, projects worth Rs. 2.78 lakh crore have been sanctioned under RDSS for loss reduction and smart metering works (State-wise details placed at Annexure). Sanctioned infrastructure works are at various stages of implementation and physical progress of about 21.51% has been achieved till date.

DPRs for the proposed works are submitted by the utilities, keeping in view the specific issues faced by them, with the approval of the State Cabinet after recommendation of the Distribution Reforms Committee (DRC) which are subsequently

approved, as per scheme guidelines, by the Monitoring Committee constituted under RDSS. The maximum financial assistance for loss reduction works given to utility is 60% of the approved project cost, while for special category States it is limited to 90%. Further, grant is also provided for Smart Metering works, as per the scheme guidelines, based on number of feeders, distribution transformers and consumers proposed to be metered.

In addition to above, other initiatives taken to improve power distribution sector include Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules 2022, Rules for implementation of Fuel and Power Purchase Cost adjustment (FPPCA) and Cost reflective tariff so as to ensure that all prudent cost for supply of electricity are passed through, Additional Borrowing space of 0.5% of GSDP to the States linked to power sector reforms, Additional Prudential Norms for lending by Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Limited and REC Limited based on the performance of the utilities etc.

As a result of various reform measures undertaken, the AT&C loss of distribution utilities at the national level has reduced from 25.5% in FY 2013 to 15.37% in FY 2023 and the ACS-ARR gap has reduced from Rs. 0.84/kWh in FY 2013 to Rs. 0.45/kWh in FY 2023. Further, the hours of supply for rural areas has improved from 12.5 hrs in FY 2014 to 21.9 hrs in FY 2024. Similarly, for urban areas it has improved from 22.1 hrs in FY 2014 to 23.4 hrs in FY 2024.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (b) TO (h) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1398 ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2025

State-wise cost of projects sanctioned under RDSS

States/DISCOMs	Sanctioned cost of metering (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned LR cost including PMA (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned total Outlay (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS of Metering Works (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS of Infrastructure (Loss Reduction) Works (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS with incentives with PMA (Infra +Metering) in Rs Cr.
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	54	462	516	12	416	428
Andhra Pradesh	4,128	10,687	14,814	815	6,412	7,227
Arunachal Pradesh	184	1,042	1,226	54	938	992
Assam	4,050	3,395	7,444	1,052	3,055	4,107
Bihar	2,021	8,406	10,427	412	5,044	5,456
Chhattisgarh	4,105	3,964	8,070	804	2,379	3,183
Delhi	13	324	337	2	194	196
Goa	469	247	716	95	148	243
Gujarat	10,642	6,089	16,731	1,885	3,653	5,538
Haryana	0	6,797	6,797	0	4,078	4,078
Himachal Pradesh	1,788	2,327	4,115	466	2,094	2,560
Jammu & Kashmir	1,064	4,771	5,835	272	4,294	4,566
Jharkhand	858	3,344	4,202	191	2,006	2,197
Karnataka	0	34	34	0	21	21
Kerala	8,231	3,011	11,243	1,413	1,807	3,220
Ladakh	0	876	876	0	788	788
Madhya Pradesh	8,911	9,384	18,295	1,504	5,631	7,134
Maharashtra	15,215	17,209	32,424	2,840	10,326	13,165
Manipur	121	615	737	38	554	592
Meghalaya	310	1,232	1,542	86	1,109	1,195
Mizoram	182	319	500	61	287	348
Nagaland	208	461	668	60	415	474
Puducherry	251	84	335	56	51	107
Punjab	5,769	3,873	9,642	960	2,324	3,284
Rajasthan	9,715	17,427	27,142	1,686	10,456	12,142
Sikkim	97	416	514	30	375	405
Tamil Nadu	19,235	9,568	28,803	3,398	5,741	9,139
Telangana	0	120	120	0	72	72
Tripura	319	598	917	80	538	619
Uttar Pradesh	18,956	21,612	40,568	3,501	12,967	16,468
Uttarakhand	1,106	1,717	2,823	310	1,545	1,855
West Bengal	12,670	7,223	19,893	2,089	4,334	6,423
Grand Total	1,30,671	1,47,635	2,78,306	24,173	94,050	1,18,224
