GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.646 ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF EV INFRASTRUCTURE

646. SMT. SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated robust guidelines for battery swapping and charging infrastructure and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which the Government is planning to address the challenges such as standardization of battery technologies and interoperability; and
- (c) the details of the incentives or support that have been proposed for stakeholders to fast-track the implementation of Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

- (a): The Ministry of Power has issued "Guidelines for Installation and Operation of Battery Swapping and Charging Stations" on 10th January 2025. These guidelines outline the standards and protocols to facilitate development of a nationwide network of Battery Charging Station (BCS) and Battery Swapping Stations (BSS). The salient features of the guidelines are as follows:
 - i. Setting up Battery Swapping Stations (BSS) and Battery Charging Stations (BCS) has been designated as a de-licensed activity, simplifying the process for businesses.
 - ii. DISCOMs have been suggested to provide electricity connections up to 150 kW with expedited timelines and clear Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to BSS & BSS.

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- iii. To make the land available at affordable rates, it has been suggested that public land be made available to Government or Public entities on a revenue-sharing model at ₹ 1 per kWh. For private entities, the land may be made available through a competitive bidding process at a floor price of ₹ 1 per kWh.
- iv. Additionally, public tenders involving government land for the establishment of BCS/BSS have been suggested to be kept technology agnostic.
- v. State Governments have been advised to permit round-the-clock operations for BCS and BSS.
- vi. Urban areas to have a battery charging/swapping station every 1 sq. km, and highways every 20 km and for Heavy Duty Vehicles every 100 km.
- (b): At present the battery swapping is evolving and full interoperability among all Electric Vehicle (EV) users is not envisaged.
- (c): Ministry of Power has issued "Guidelines for Installation and Operation of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure-2024" on 17th September 2024 to facilitate the development of EV charging infrastructure network in the country. The salient features of the above mentioned guidelines are as follows:
 - i. Setting up EV Charging Stations has been designated as a de-licensed activity, simplifying the process for businesses.
 - ii. To facilitate electricity connection for EV charging stations, timelines have been specified. Owners of EV charging stations may opt for Low Tension (LT) connection for loads up to 150 kW.
 - iii. To make the land available at affordable rates for setting up of EV charging station,it has been suggested that public land be made available to Government or Public entities on a revenue-sharing model at ₹ 1 per kWh. For private entities, the land may be made available through a competitive bidding process at a floor price of ₹ 1 per kWh.
 - iv. Tariff for supply of electricity to EV charging stations has been simplified. It has been advised to make tariff single part and limited to "Average Cost of Supply" till 31st March 2028.

- v. Residential owners may use existing electricity connections for EV charging or may opt for a separate metered connection from Distribution Licensee with a dedicated EV charging tariff.
- vi. To promote charging through solar energy, charging during solar hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) has been incentivized.
- vii. Service fee charged by a public and community EV charging station from a customer has been rationalized.
- viii. Use of open communication protocols like Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP), Open Charge Point Interface (OCPI) and Unified Energy Interface (UEI) to create connected and interoperable EV charging infrastructure has been encouraged.

Various other measures taken by Government to fast-track implementation of EV charging infrastructure are as follows:

- i. Under PM e-DRIVE (Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement) allocation of Rs. 2,000 Cr has been made to support 72,300 public charging stations (48,400 for e-2W & 3W, 22,100 for e-4W and 1800 e-buses).
- ii. Model Building Bye-Laws has been amended mandating the inclusion of charging stations in private and commercial buildings.
