

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2896
ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025

UNDERGROUND POWERLINE IN GIB AREA

2896. MRS. RUCHI VIRA

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance and policy facilities for undergrounding power lines in western Uttar Pradesh to ensure the safety of the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard (GIB) and also to avoid any delay or adverse impact on the ongoing and planned renewable energy projects in the region;

(b) if so, the details of the Government's long-term plan to promote renewable energy development in GIB-rich areas of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, including proposals for energy security, project timeline, measures to balance ecological conservation and coordination with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Committee appointed by the Supreme Court of India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) to (c) The Supreme Court's order dated 21.03.2024 in Writ Petition (Civil) 838/2019 pertaining to undergrounding of power lines in the habitats of Great Indian Bustard (GIB) as well as the report of the Expert Committee constituted by Supreme Court vide its aforesaid order dated 21.03.2024 have indicated present major habitats of Great Indian Bustard (GIB) in certain areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat only.

Accordingly, the expert committee in its report submitted to Supreme Court have given recommendations in respect of the GIB-rich areas in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat only, and have not recommended any measures on laying of power lines in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar on account of safety of Great Indian Bustard (GIB).
