GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1922 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.05.2016

REVENUE LOSSES IN DISTRIBUTION

1922. SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has chalked any plan to reduce revenue loss through the better power distribution and checking the faults in transmission of electricity and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is considering to upgrade its electricity network into a smart grid system which will facilitate two-way communication between consumers and the power utilities; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a): Yes, Madam. The Government of India has launched Ujjwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) for the financial and operational turnaround of state-owned Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMS). The scheme aims to reduce interest burden, reduce the cost of power, reduce power losses in Distribution sector, and improve operational efficiency of DISCOMS. 18 States and one Union Territory have given their 'in-principle' approval to participate under UDAY. So far, 10 States have already signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with Ministry of Power under UDAY. In addition, under Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) and Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) launched by Government of India for upgrading distribution networks in Urban & Rural areas, there is a provision of financial incentives for reduction in AT&C losses in addition to grants for taking up strengthening projects.
- (b) & (c): Yes, Madam. Government of India (GoI) has launched National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM) to plan and monitor implementation of policies and programmes related to Smart Grid activities in India. NSGM envisages implementation of Smart Grid projects in the country to make Indian Power infrastructure cost effective, responsive, reliable and self-healing. Smart Meters, which enable two way communication between consumers and the power utilities, is one of the major components of a Smart Grid system. Two Smart Grid projects for Amravati and Chandigarh have been approved under NSGM at a cost of Rs. 118.63 crore with 30% funding from Government of India (GoI) under NSGM. The Budgetary support for NSGM activities for the Financial Year 2016-17 is Rs. 30 Crore.
