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Title: Regarding Electricity (Amendment) Bill- 2021 -laid.

SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN (COIMBATORE): With much constraint, I *strongly* register my objection to the Union Govt's proposed anti-people Bill called 'The Electricity (Amendment) Bill-2021'. The aims and objectives of this proposed Bill shall facilitate total privatisation of Power Distribution Network. Even though more than 12 state governments and UTs vehemently objected to this bill, Union Govt is moving ahead ignoring concerns/views of the state govts/UTs. It is alleged that if this bill is implemented, legislative power of the state governments in fixing the cost of electricity charges will be taken away. Private corporate companies shall not have any social obligations for providing free power supply now available to the agriculture pump sets, weaving industries. There are apprehensions that in later years, these benefits are likely to be abolished by these private companies. Cost of electricity will increase manifold by abolition of Cross Subsidy Charging by the private companies. Moreover, job security, livelihood and social security benefits of more than 10 lakhs workforce may be affected.

Hence, I request our hounourable Minister for Power to repeal the proposed 'The Electricity (Amendment) Bill-2021' to safeguard the State Government's legislative rights enshrined in Article 246 of the Indian Constitution.