

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1098
ANSWERED ON 05.02.2026**

POLICY FOR THE LARGE-SCALE IMPLEMENTATION OF INSULATED CONDUCTORS

1098. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:

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

(a) whether the Government has formulated any policy for the large-scale implementation of insulated or covered conductors across the country to prevent electrocution incidents and line faults, if so, the details thereof, including the timeframe for its implementation;

(b) whether the Government has allocated any funds under centrally sponsored schemes for the installation or upgradation to insulated electric lines and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of States that have fully or partially implemented underground cabling systems in the country; and

(d) whether the Ministry proposes to implement underground cabling in the country, at least in urbanised areas and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d) : Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity to the consumers is within the purview of the respective State Government/ Distribution Utility. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through various schemes to help them achieve the objective of providing quality and reliable supply of power to all consumers.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has notified the Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2023 and Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Construction of Electrical Plants and Electric Lines) Regulations, 2022, as amended from time to time, which mandate the use of insulated cables, covered conductors, Aerial Bunched Cables (ABC) and underground cables in certain areas, with the objective of preventing electrocution incidents, reducing line faults, and enhancing the safety and reliability of power supply. As per the provision of these regulations:

- Underground cables shall be used in coastal areas.**

- **Aerial bunched cables (ABC) or insulated cables or covered conductors shall be used in the congested, theft and accident-prone areas.**
- **In case of Electric lines of 33 kV and below passing through the protected areas such as National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves, Community Reserves), Eco-sensitive zones around the protected areas and Wildlife Corridors, only underground cables shall be used.**

In addition to above, distribution utilities may use insulated or covered conductors in other areas based on actual field conditions.

With the objective of improving the quality and reliability of power supply to consumers through a financially sustainable and operationally efficient distribution Sector, Government of India launched Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in July 2021. Under the scheme, financial assistance is being provided to the Distribution Utilities for upgradation of distribution infrastructure & system modernization. Distribution infrastructure works such as Aerial Bunched Cables (ABC)/covered conductors & underground cables, upgradation/ augmentation of sub-stations and distribution transformers, upgrading of conductors, etc. have been sanctioned under the scheme based on proposals submitted the utilities. Till date, distribution infrastructure works amounting to Rs 1.53 lakh crore have been sanctioned under the scheme.
