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Title: Need to take steps to ease congestion in the grid to ensure uninterrupted supply of power.

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (SALEM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to raise an important matter of Urgent Matter of Public Importance.

The recent directive of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission for tightening the grid frequency is likely to cause havoc with the power utilities. This Order will definitely create a crisis in the States which are already reeling under power shortage.

Tamil Nadu is the most affected State by this Order. To tackle the power crisis, my revered leader, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has taken several steps including procurement of power from other States. Tamil Nadu has contracted with some States for supply of nearly 1,750 MW power but the corridor availability is only to the extent of 350 MW. So, the corridor availability has to be released by the Central Load Despatching Authority.

Now, this directive of the Authority to tighten the corridor availability has worsened the situation further. My revered leader and the hon. Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi has also requested the Central Government to postpone the proposal for further tightening the grid frequency till the situation improves.

I would, therefore, demand that the restriction imposed on transmission of power should be lifted and the corridor should be made available for supply of power to Tamil Nadu which was contracted already.

The Government can also think of setting up additional corridors for power supply in various parts on the lines of having five-lane, four-lane in the Highways and also doubling in Railway. On the same lines, the Government has to think of setting up additional corridors for taking electricity.