

Electricity Act amendments to come into effect by April: Goyal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, February 6

Amendments to the Electricity Act, to bring in various reforms, including improving power supply and enabling consumers to choose their supplier, should come into effect by April, Power Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday.

Speaking at a TERI event, the Minister said the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2014, which was tabled in the Lok Sabha in December last year, will become law by April.

In December last year, the Cabinet approved various amendments to the existing Electricity Act, 2003, to enable consumers to choose their electricity supplier, among other reforms.

The Centre has also said that wherever there are existing power purchase agreements, the interests of stakeholders would be protected, and this would be done in consultation with the power regulator.

The Centre plans to allow competition at the last mile or to the



Piyush Goyal, Minister of State for Power, Coal and Renewable Energy

end-consumer without raising tariffs or compromising on customer service.

Meanwhile, the minister said that the government is committed to pushing renewable power generation.

He said the Centre plans to take wind energy generation to 60,000 MW in the next 4-5 years from around 20,000 MW currently.

The Centre, which also plans to have 100,000 MW of installed solar capacity by 2022, has identified 40,000 MW of immediate potential for rooftop solar.