

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3710
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023**

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO ENERGY

3710. SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

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

- (a) the details of the measures being taken to ensure universal access to energy;**
- (b) the details of progress made in this respect, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) the details of the challenges faced in this respect thereof; and**
- (d) the details of the proposed measures taken/to be taken in this regard?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b) : The Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – SAUBHAGYA in October, 2017 with the objective of achieving universal household electrification, by providing electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural areas and all poor households in urban areas in the country. Under the aegis of SAUBHAGYA, as on 31.03.2019, all households were reported electrified by the States, except 18,734 households in Left Wing Extremists (LWE) affected areas of Chhattisgarh. Subsequently, seven States namely Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Manipur, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh had reported that around 19.09 lakh un-electrified households, identified before 31.03.2019, which were unwilling earlier but later expressed willingness to get electricity connection. This was also sanctioned. All these seven States had reported 100% household electrification as on 31.03.2021. A total of 2.817 crore households were electrified since the launch of SAUBHAGYA, up to 31.03.2021.

Thereafter, some States reported that 11.84 lakh households remained to be electrified, against which, States reported electrification of 4.43 lakh households. Accordingly, a total 2.86 crore households have been electrified. State-wise details are furnished at Annexure. This Scheme stands closed on 31.03.2022.

While fresh arising of new households is a continuous process and electrification of such households is expected to be taken care of by the Distribution Utilities, the Government of India stands committed to help the States to electrify all the households which existed when Saubhagya was sanctioned. In this respect, the Government of India recently issued Guidelines for their electrification under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) and the States have been advised to pose their DPRs to the Ministry of Power in this regard.

(c) : The details of challenges faced under SAUBHAGYA Scheme are as under:

- (i) Households scattered in inaccessible & remote areas**
- (ii) Difficult & Hilly terrains, inclement weather, riverine/marshy/snow bound areas required to be covered.**
- (iii) Transportation of material by head loading, helicopters, bamboo bridges, rafts, boats, etc.**
- (iv) Poor/inadequate power infrastructure**
- (v) Located in Left Wing Extremism affected areas**
- (vi) Forest areas - requiring clearance**
- (vii) Non-availability of materials (like Poles, Distribution Transformers, Meters, etc.) at local level**
- (viii) Various Right of Way issues.**

(d) : The measures taken to meet the challenges in this regard are as under:

- i. Launching of SAUBHAGYA Strategy Formulation workshops in the States to give impetus to quick start the programme.**
- ii. Establishing camps in villages/ cluster of villages wherein public representatives (MPs, MLAs, Gram Pradhan) helped in creating awareness amongst public at large.**
- iii. Infrastructure support to the tune of Rs. 14,270 crore for electrification of households under SAUBHAGYA and adequate funding provided to the States by Government of India.**
- iv. 24x7 communication through 'One nation One number', toll-free helplines and special campaign 'SAUBHAGYA Rath' helped create awareness along with various media options viz. print media, radio, television, social media (Facebook, twitter, etc.).**
- v. Flexibility to States in mode of implementation (Departmental/ Turnkey/ Semi-turnkey).**
- vi. A comprehensive web portal '*saubhagya.gov.in*' was developed and DISCOMs were provided access to update the progress on the portal to enable day-to-day monitoring.**

- vii. Coordination with Indian Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers' Association (IEEMA) to ensure speedy supply of products and equipment.**
- viii. Facilitated availability of adequate skilled manpower with requisite skill, through coordination with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) for effective training of the workforce.**
- ix. More than 350 Engineers viz. Gram Vidyut Abhiyantas (GVAs) were deployed in the monitoring of projects under rural electrification schemes.**
- x. Helicopters and support from the Indian Railways were instrumental in transporting essential goods to the unexplored and in accessible geographies.**
- xi. Monitoring & Reviews at all levels of the Government Centre States and Distribution utilities.**

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3710 ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.03.2023

State-wise electrification of households since launch of SAUBHAGYA Scheme / Additional Sanctions and Achievement under DDUGJY (status as on 31.03.2022)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	ORIGINAL HOUSEHOLDS SANCTIONED UNDER SAUBHAGYA	ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLDS SANCTIONED UNDER SAUBHAGYA		ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLDS SANCTIONED UNDER DDUGJY		Grand Total
		No of households electrified from 11.10.2017 to 31.03.2019	No of households electrified from 01.04.2019 to 31.03.2021	Total households electrified as on 31.03.2021	Additional households Sanctioned	Additional households electrified as on 31.03.2022	
1	2	3	4	5=3+4	6	7	8=5+7
1	Andhra Pradesh*	1,81,930	0	1,81,930			1,81,930
2	Arunachal Pradesh	47,089	0	47,089	7859	0	47,089
3	Assam	17,45,149	2,00,000	19,45,149	480249	381507	23,26,656
4	Bihar	32,59,041	0	32,59,041			32,59,041
5	Chhattisgarh	7,49,397	40,394	7,89,791	21981	2577	7,92,368
6	Gujarat*	41,317	0	41,317			41,317
7	Haryana	54,681	0	54,681			54,681
8	Himachal Pradesh	12,891	0	12,891			12,891
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3,77,045	0	3,77,045			3,77,045
10	Jharkhand	15,30,708	2,00,000	17,30,708			17,30,708
11	Karnataka	3,56,974	26,824	3,83,798			3,83,798
12	Ladakh	10,456	0	10,456			10,456
13	Madhya Pradesh	19,84,264	0	19,84,264	99722	0	19,84,264
14	Maharashtra	15,17,922	0	15,17,922			15,17,922
15	Manipur	1,02,748	5,367	1,08,115	21135	0	1,08,115
16	Meghalaya	1,99,839	0	1,99,839	420	401	2,00,240
17	Mizoram	27,970	0	27,970			27,970
18	Nagaland	1,32,507	0	1,32,507	7009	7009	1,39,516
19	Odisha	24,52,444	0	24,52,444			24,52,444
20	Puducherry*	912	0	912			912
21	Punjab	3,477	0	3,477			3,477
22	Rajasthan (Jaipur)	18,62,736	2,12,786	20,75,522	210843	52206	21,27,728
23	Sikkim	14,900	0	14,900			14,900
24	Tamil Nadu*	2,170	0	2,170			2,170
25	Telangana	5,15,084	0	5,15,084			5,15,084
26	Tripura	1,39,090	0	1,39,090			1,39,090
27	Uttar Pradesh	79,80,568	12,00,003	91,80,571	334652	0	91,80,571
28	Uttarakhand	2,48,751	0	2,48,751			2,48,751
29	West Bengal	7,32,290	0	7,32,290			7,32,290
	Total	2,62,84,350	18,85,374	2,81,69,724	11,83,870	4,43,700	2,86,13,424

* Electrified prior to SAUBHAGYA and not funded under SAUBHAGYA
