

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : 25 per cent of the beneficiaries are getting the benefit under the animal husbandry sector.

[Translation]

Renewable Energy in Rural Areas

*284. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage non-conventional energy sources in rural areas by providing subsidy;

(b) if so, the percentage of success achieved in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c). The Government has been encouraging the installation and use of non-conventional energy sources in the rural areas by providing various incentives, such as subsidies, soft loans and tax incentives.

Considerable success has been achieved in the field of decentralised rural energy systems. A total of about 24 lakh family-size biogas plants, 1600 community/institutional. Night soil based biogas plants, 225 lakh improved chulhas, 37,000 solar home lighting units, 81,000 solar lanterns and 1500 solar photovoltaic water pumping systems have been installed so far. With an installed capacity of 740MW, significant success has also been achieved in the installation of wind farms which are located in remote rural areas. The Eighth Plan targets for major programmes have already been achieved.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister the number of villages covered under Non conventional Energy programmes and the number of villages, benefited therefrom?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, nowadays, Uttar Pradesh is leading in solar PV lanterns and fixed lights. There are over 25 per cent lanterns in Uttar Pradesh as against the all India percentage, fixed lights over 75 per cent, biogas plants about 13 per cent, improved chulhas about 12 per cent. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have proposed electrification of 286 hilly and inaccessible villages with solar lights with the cost being shared between the Ministry of Non-Conventional

Energy Sources and the Government of Uttar Pradesh. This is under the consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : I wanted to know the number of districts covered under this scheme in Uttar Pradesh?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Eighty eight blocks have been benefited.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : I wanted to know the number of villages covered under non conventional Energy programme in Jhansi division of Uttar Pradesh; the amount of subsidy given to this division and the number of scheduled caste families benefited under this programme?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, almost all the districts of the States are getting the benefits.

As far as Jhansi is concerned I will provide the information to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : I want to know from the hon. Minister if the programmes to encourage non conventional energy sources have been sponsored by the Govt. or some villages are covered under this programme as per the recommendations of some of the hon. Members? I come from Bihar. We had taken up this issue in tenth Lok Sabha also. Our proposal to include some villages under this programme has not been implemented to this day. I want to know from the hon. Minister by what time this programme of covering villages under non conventional energy programme as per the recommendations of the hon. Members would come into force?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : As far as Bihar is concerned, we may consider it from this year.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : My question is with regard to the renewal sources of energy in Ladakh. Out of 365 days in a year, 320 days are fully sunny in Ladakh. What projects have been undertaken to utilise that natural resource to augment power in that area? If that power is available, tourism in Ladakh will get a big fillip. It is easily available because of the high altitude. Sun rays are there and there is equipment available by which you can get the solar energy in that area.

In fact, all over the world, Ladakh is considered to be the most suitable area for getting the solar energy. I would like to know what action has been taken by the Government of India to tap that resource without which cost.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, in Ladakh, solar energy is playing a predominant role. This is being used for solar water heaters and solar lights, and we are also considering it to be used for solar cookers.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

CAPART

*285. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether assistance is being provided to the voluntary organisations of Gujarat, Bihar and Maharashtra through CAPART;

(b) the details of complaints received so far against the Voluntary Organisations of Gujarat and Bihar; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). CAPART has not maintained composite and separate record of the complaints received by it against voluntary organisations. However, the complaints received, inter-alia, relate to misuse of funds, false reporting, forging of documents etc. The complaints received are looked into either by Officers of CAPART or monitors appointed by CAPART. In case a prima facie case is established, the organisation is asked to explain its conduct. Thereafter, if the complaint is established, the organisation is black-listed and banned from receiving any further grants. Other action taken includes recovery of funds from the delinquent organisation, initiation of legal proceedings, referring the cases to the police etc.

[English]

Nehru Rozgar Yojana

*286. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the objectives of Nehru Rozgar Yojana has been achieved so far and the steps taken to make the scheme a success story;

(b) the details of total amount allocated and released, utilized and unutilized under Nehru Rozgar

Yojana since its inception upto March 31, 1996, State-wise;

(c) whether the funds released under Nehru Rozgar Yojana have not been fully utilized by the different States during the last two years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the level of release during the current year has been cut/proposed to be cut on account of under-utilisation of funds released in the past; and

(f) if so, whether the plan target during the current year is likely to be achieved as a result of this cut and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The physical achievements vis-a-vis the targets as on 31.3.1996 are as follows:-

	Target	Achievement
(i) Number of beneficiaries Assisted to set up micro enterprises	7.23 lakhs	7.81 lakhs
(ii) Number of mandays of works generated	449.76 lakhs	449.17 lakhs
(iii) Number of dwelling units upgraded/in progress	8.00 lakhs	3.97 lakhs

The various steps taken to achieve the objectives of the Yojana are :-

- (i) Constitution of a High Powered Committee on Institutional Finance to overcome bottlenecks in implementation of Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME). The Committee meets periodically.
- (ii) Periodic review meetings at the level of Secretaries.
- (iii) Periodic review meetings with representatives of States/Union territories.
- (iv) Strengthening of organisational structure at State/Union territory level by setting up State Urban Development Agency (SUDA) and District Urban Development Agency (DUDA) for speedy and effective implementation.
- (v) Constitution of Task Force for each town consisting of various authorities, including banks, for identification of beneficiaries.
- (vi) Scheme of Housing & Shelter Upgradation (SHASU) made applicable to all towns/cities with population below 20 lakhs.
- (vii) Evolving Management Information System (MIS) for proper monitoring.