

average, through an employment oriented growth strategy supplemented by special employment programmes such as IRDP, TRYSEM, JRY, NRY, EAS, PMRY etc.

Distribution of Surplus Land to Farmers

1180. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

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

(a) whether a large area of surplus land is lying for distribution among the poor farmers in the country after fixing the land ceiling;

(b) if so, the estimated total area of such land;

(c) the area of land out of it under litigation in different courts;

(d) whether the Government have taken any action for early settlement of these disputes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per reports received from the States/UTs till date, total quantum of ceiling surplus land pending distribution in the entire country is 2222609 acres.

(c) Out of the aforesaid quantum of land, land held under litigation in different courts are as below:

- (i) Under Supreme Court - 61776 acres;
- (ii) Under High Courts - 396268;
- (iii) Under Revenue Courts - 375013 acres.

(d) and (e). The Central Government have advised the State Governments to set up land tribunals under Article 323-B of the Constitution and requested respective High Courts to set up Special Benches for expeditious disposal of litigation cases.

[English]

Rural Electrification

1181. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided for rural electrification during 1994-95, State-wise;

(b) whether any proposals have been received from respective States to increase the allocated amount during last two years;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to their requests, if not the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of villages electrified during the last three years under Rural Electrification Programme, State-wise;

(e) the total number of villages in the country at present, where electricity is not available;

(f) whether the Government have formulated any time bound scheme/programme for electrification of all villages;

(g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL):

(a) State-wise details of the financial assistance provided by Rural Electrification Corporation during 1994-95 and 1995-96 upto October, 1995 is indicated in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c). Ministry of Power have received two requests from Uttar Pradesh and Assam Governments for enhanced financial assistance for village electrification and Kutir Jyoti Programme respectively. While Government has agreed to an increased budgetary allocation for the Kutir Jyoti programme in the country from Rs. 5 crores to Rs. 25 crores in 1995-96, U.P. Government's request could not be acceded to due to financial constraints and heavy overdues of UPSEB.

(d) Statewise details of villages electrified during the last three years under rural electrification programme is indicated in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) As on 31.3.1995, there were 84,056 unelectrified villages in the country.

(f) to (h). Rural Electrification is a continuing process. The targets for rural electrification programme are fixed by the Planning Commission on an annual basis in consultation with State Electricity Boards, keeping in view of the overall availability of resources and the proposals received from the State Electricity Boards.