

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:247
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2000
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages yet to be electrified in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether the electrification of villages is being done only by using the LT lines;
- (c) if not, the number of villages being electrified in other manner;
- (d) whether this work is not being completed due to financial constraints in many States;
- (e) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (f) whether any time bound programme has been drawn for the purpose; (g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and (h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER

(SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM)

(a) to (h) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 247 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.3.2000 REGARDING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION.

(a) : State-wise details of total number of inhabited villages to be electrified in the country as per 1991 Census as on 1.2.2000 along with the number of villages electrified are at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c) : Generally, the villages are to be electrified by using LT lines except the villages which are located in remote and difficult areas, where the extension of grid will be costly and un-economical and where the development of load is unlikely due to thinly dispersed population. Such remotely located villages are proposed to be electrified through non-conventional sources of energy.

(d) : Most of the villages which have remained unelectrified are generally remote, far-flung and tribal in nature. The major reasons for slow progress are financial constraints of SEBs, inadequate sub-distribution system facilities, disturbed conditions prevailing in some States, non-repayment of dues of Rural Electrification Corporation resulting in no cash flow, lack of demand from the consumers due to backwardness and poor economic conditions etc.

(e) to (h) : Rural Electrification Corporation, during the year 1999-2000, has sanctioned loan assistance of Rs.2586.12 crores for various rural electrification schemes sponsored by State Electricity Boards/Power Departments of State Governments. State-wise details of schemes and loan amounts sanctioned are at Annexure-II.

Rural Electrification Corporation has set a target of electrification of 7000 villages and energisation of 7,40,000 pumpsets during the first three years of the Ninth Plan period. Out of the targets set, REC has already achieved electrification of 6281 villages and energisation of 6,49,000 pumpsets to the end of December, 1999.

During the Ninth Plan, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources proposes to support projects for deployment of 3 lakh solar lanterns, 2 lakh home lighting systems, 4,000 pumps and 2.1 MW of village power plants and other systems including street lights. This is through the photovoltaic option.