

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5596
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Committee on Public Undertakings has expressed its concern regarding defaulting in payment of six electricity boards to rural electricity corporation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these States have a very poor record in rural electrification;
- (d) if so, whether non-realization of dues from these electricity boards has adversely affected the rural population of these States;
- (e) if so, whether the Government have chalked out any strategy to recover dues from these electricity boards to give a flip to rural electrification; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (f) : The Committee on Public Undertakings in its report of 19th March, 2002 noted that there were six major defaulting State Electricity Boards (SEBs), namely, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in making payments to Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

Of these, Meghalaya State Electricity Board had agreed to reschedule their loans. However, no favourable response has been received from other defaulting five State Electricity Boards as regards re-scheduling of their loans. The Committee noted with concern that these five defaulting SEBs are the ones who have very poor record of rural electrification and any further delay in realizing the dues from these SEBs would adversely affect the rural population of these States. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has filed cases with Debt Recovery Tribunal against these five defaulting State Electricity Boards.

However, to give a fillip to rural electrification, funds have been released to the State Governments under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) and Minimum Needs Programme. During 2001-02, a sum of Rs.22166.52 lakhs under PMGY and Rs.8943.00 lakhs under MNP were released to the States of Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.