

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:490
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2005
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government for making villages self dependent with regard to availability of electricity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of villages in the country where electrification is possible only through non-conventional energy sources, as grid connectivity is not feasible;
- (d) whether any proposal have been received from Jammu & Kashmir for electrification by non-conventional source of energy in remote and border areas of Kashmir;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a) & (b): A programme for electrification of remote unelectrified census villages using locally available non-conventional energy sources is being implemented by the Ministry. The remote villages which cannot be electrified through grid extension because of unfeasibility or cost ineffectiveness will be taken up under the Programme. The non-conventional energy sources used for electrification include biomass, solar energy, small hydro, etc. The Ministry provides upto 90% of benchmark costs for deployment of these technologies for electrification under the Programme.

(c): The initial estimates of the number of remote villages where electrification through grid connectivity may not be feasible were made based on the inputs provided by the states. These indicated that there may be around 25000 such villages. However, during 2005-06, with a view to avoid duplication with Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, a single point responsibility for identification of such villages has been entrusted to the Rural Electrification Corporation.

(d), (e) & (f): Proposals for electrification of 140 remote villages were received from Jammu & Kashmir Energy Development Agency. These were sanctioned by the Ministry and electrification work in 90 villages has been completed. In the remaining 50 villages, the work is under progress. In addition, initial proposals from Ladakh Renewable Energy Development Agency for providing 18000 homelighting systems and from Renewable Energy Development Agency, Kargil for electrification, have also been received. The agencies have been advised to formulate the proposals in accordance with the guidelines of the Programme for the year 2005-06.