

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1944

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2007

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rural electrification schemes is not progressing as per the programme in many States;
- (b) if so, whether any review has been done to find out the reasons behind it;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of villages that have been electrified in each State during the last three years till date and the funds allocated/released by the Government for the purpose during the current financial year; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to accelerate the pace of rural electrification in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) : Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), a rural electrification programme launched by Government of India in April, 2005 has so far been progressing on the expected lines. As compared to earlier rural electrification scheme where average rate of electrification has been 3,000 villages per year, under RGGVY, 9,819 unelectrified villages were electrified in 2005-06 and, 28,706 unelectrified villages were electrified in 2006-07 besides intensive electrification of around 12,000 electrified villages in these two years. In 2007-08, so far 4,467 unelectrified villages have been electrified and 7,708 electrified villages have been intensively electrified. Also, since the introduction of the scheme in April, 2005, 13 lakh electricity connections have been released to Below Poverty Line (BPL) free of charge.

(b) & (c) : Ministry of Power & Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) have frequently reviewed the progress of RGGVY and have impressed upon all the stakeholders for expeditious implementation of the same so that the targeted goals are achieved within the stipulated time schedule. Some of the issues which came up during implementation were:-

Delayed submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by states.

Delay in issue of tenders by state power utilities and State Government Departments due to non-acquaintance with turnkey contracts.

Delay in issue of authenticated Below Poverty Line (BPL) list by State Authorities in Bihar, U.P., West Bengal.

Delay in allocation and subsequent acquisition of land for new sub-stations in Bihar.

(d) : The implementing agencies have reported that electrification works have been carried out in 62554 villages including 42,992 un-electrified and 19,585 electrified villages up to 17th August 2007, under RGGVY. State-wise and year-wise details are given at Annex-I. Funds released during 2007-08 so far are to the tune of Rs.400 crore.

(e) : To accelerate the pace of village electrification under RGGVY in the country, following steps have been taken:

For speedier and effective implementation of projects, these are executed on turnkey basis.

Government of India has set up an inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee which periodically meets to sanction projects and review progress of implementation.

States have been advised to set up district committees to monitor the progress of rural electrification works. All the states have notified formation of district committees.

The Government of India as also REC, the nodal agency for RGGVY, are conducting frequent review meetings with all the stakeholders e.g. concerned State Governments, state power utilities and implementing agencies for expeditious implementation of the scheme as per agreed schedules.

Wherever the State has desired, the services of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) have been provided for implementation of the scheme. 139 districts have been allocated to CPSUs.