

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:178

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2007

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

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**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to complete electrification of the villages having power projects nearby;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of villages in the country still deprived of electrification till date; State-wise; and
- (d) the reasons therefor and the time by which the Government are likely to electrify these villages?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Govt. of India, under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) has envisaged electrification of over one lakh un-electrified villages as also intensive electrification of already electrified villages in the country for providing access of electricity to all the rural households by 2009. The salient features of the scheme are given as under:

- # The scheme aims at electrification of about one lakh villages (excluding villages to be electrified by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy) and providing access of electricity to 7.8 crore rural households including 2.34 crore BPL households.
- # Ninety per cent capital subsidy is provided for overall cost of the projects under the scheme.
- # States must make adequate arrangements for supply of electricity and there should be no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households.
- # For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under the scheme, prior commitment of the States is obtained before sanction of projects under the scheme for: -
- # deployment of franchisees for the management of rural distribution in projects financed under the scheme.
- # the provision of requisite revenue subsidies to the State Utilities as required under the Electricity Act, 2003.
- # Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) is the nodal agency for the scheme.

(c) : As on 09.11.2007, there are 99,841 un-electrified villages in the country as per Central Electricity Authority and Rural Electrification Corporation reports. State-wise details are at Annex.

(d) : The main reasons attributable for lower level of village electrification in some of the States are :

- # Poor financial health of State Power Utilities.
- # Non-remunerative nature of rural electrification.
- # Non-availability of resources including work force.
- # Geographical spread of the balance villages including far-flung areas.
- # Very low population density.

All the un-electrified villages are envisaged to be electrified by 2009 under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, except remote villages to be electrified under the programme of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.