

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:131
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
RGGVY
Mahto Shri Tek Lal

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether serious obstacles have cropped up in the way of carrying out electrification under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidutikaran Yojana in Jharkhand due to objections raised by the Environment and Forests Department;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to expedite the electrification work so far in this regard along with the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

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

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 131 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.11.2007 REGARDING RGGVY.

(a) : Although no objections have been raised by the Environment and Forest Department for carrying out electrification under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in Jharkhand, difficulties were experienced by implementing agencies for carrying out rural electrification works under RGGVY due to delays in grant of forest clearance by Forest Department of Jharkhand/Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(b) : Under RGGVY, electricity lines have to be laid through forest areas which require forest clearance and approval for diversion of forest land for non forest activities under Section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act. This requires the following of prescribed procedures needing route details of High Tension line passing through protected forest and `jungle-jhari` land and plotting the same on mouza/village map and topo sheets. A single 11 KV line may involve 50 to 60 mouza/village maps. Sometimes these maps are not readily available. Without these details, it is not possible to process proposal for forest clearance.

(c) : On pursuance by Ministry of Power and other stakeholders of the scheme, procedure for submission of proposal for obtaining forest clearance for implementation of RGGVY in the State of Jharkhand has been simplified recently by Ministry of Environment & Forests. The proposal now has to be submitted under `Simplified procedure for certain categories of proposals` as per Para 2.4 of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (with amendments made in 1988), Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 (with amendments made in 2004), guidelines and clarifications (up to June, 2004), Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.

Under the simplified procedure, proposal for forest clearance is required to be submitted only with line plotting on topo sheet along with necessary certificates.

The implementing agency has submitted proposals for forest clearance under simplified procedure for Dhanbad, Koderma and Bokaro Districts to the respective forest divisions for obtaining approval at the earliest.