

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:377
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
POWER SAVING IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to launch a pilot project for power saving in agriculture sector;
- (b) if so,the details thereof,State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared detailed project reports of the shortlisted Demand Side Management (DSM) projects;and
- (d) if so,the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Yes,Sir.The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) of Ministry of Power,in its meeting held on 29th May 2008 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Power) recommended that 20 pilot projects for energy-efficient water pumping may be taken up in agriculture sector to ensure that replicable business model could be evolved, given the complexities of the agricultural sector and the fact that there is no demonstrable sustainable project implemented till date.The EFC recommended that these pilots may be taken up in states selected in terms of their preparedness, segregation on agricultural feeders, installation of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS),and willingness of the state utility to take up this initiative.

(c) & (d): Six States have been selected based on the parameters approved by EFC for initiation of pilots.These states are Punjab,Andhra Pradesh,Gujarat,Rajasthan,Haryana and Maharashtra. The preparation of detailed project report is to be undertaken by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in these selected states after the scheme is approved by the Government.