

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3856  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2009  
ENERGY SAVING  
Balram Shri P.

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

- (a) whether there is ample scope of energy saving in farm operations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to help farmers in the use of energy saving for the current Five Year Plan for each State including Andhra Pradesh?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER ( SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI )

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam.

India's agricultural sector consumes 22% of total electricity consumption and there is immense potential of energy savings in the sector. Estimates indicate saving of 30% of energy can be realized by replacing the inefficient pumps with efficient pumps. If all the pumps are replaced, it is estimated that about 30 billion units of electricity can be saved every year. The savings in electricity would lead to reduction of subsidy provided by the State Government which can be leveraged to attract private investment.

(c) : The Government of India has approved an Agricultural Demand Side Management (Ag DSM) programme to enable replacement of inefficient pump sets with efficient pumps in order to harness efficiency gains leading to lower electricity consumption. Initially five states namely, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab have been chosen for implementation of pilot projects as these states have segregated agricultural feeders and are in the process of implementing the High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS). This is necessary to enable ring fencing a viable project area and ensuring reliable supply which is a requirement for efficient pumps. These two are pre-requisites for the implementation of the Ag DSM programme to enable private parties to invest. No other state has been included in this pilot project.