

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:190

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013

ELECTRICITY TO HOUSEHOLDS UNDER RGGVY

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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide round the clock and affordable access to electricity to all households and villages/hamlets in the country during the next five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action plan formulated by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the transformers installed under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) reportedly get burnt frequently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the time by which such burnt transformers are likely to be replaced, State-wise; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken or are being taken to address the issue?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) : The Government of India launched Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), a flagship scheme, with an objective to provide access to electricity to rural households by creating rural electricity infrastructure and also to provide free electricity single point connection to Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. Under the scheme, Government of India provides 90% of the project cost as capital subsidy for establishing Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) and Village Electrification Infrastructure (VEI) and provides free electricity single point connections to BPL households, in order to provide affordable access. However, the supply of electricity to consumers is the responsibility of Distribution Companies/Power Departments of State Governments.

Government of India has approved the proposal for continuation of RGGVY in the 12th and 13th Plan:

- i) to complete spillover works of projects sanctioned in 10th and 11th Plan;
 - ii) to cover remaining census villages and habitation with population above 100; and
 - iii) to provide free electricity connections to remaining eligible BPL households.
- (c) to (e) : Yes, Madam. Some of the transformers installed under RGGVY reported burnt. Some of the reasons for burning of transformers are :-
- i) Overloading due to un-authorized connections / illegal hooking.
 - ii) Connected load being more than approved load in households given connections under the scheme.
 - iii) Distribution transformers have suitable protection system to avoid burning in case of overloading or fault. When such protections are bypassed, Distribution Transformers get burnt in case of overloading or fault.

Repair/replacement of burnt transformers is the responsibility of implementing agency before the infrastructure is handed over to the Discoms/Power Departments. After handover, the responsibility for the same shifts to the Discoms/Power Departments, who are expected to carry out the same as per their norms and procedures.

To reduce the instances of burning of transformers to larger extent, realistic assessment of load by considering 250 watts for BPL connections and 500 watts for APL connections have been considered in 12th Plan projects. Further, States have been requested to formulate Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for 12th Plan, based on actual field survey so that exact number of households could be ascertained for accurate estimation of load. Under 12th Plan, bigger Distribution Transformers (DTs) of 63 and 100 KVA can also be allowed, if proposed by the States, based on actual field requirement with justification.