

>

Title: Need for early sanctioning of the projects under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in Orissa.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Orissa look at Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana scheme as an opportunity for extension of the rural distribution network as well as household connectivity. Though a quadripartite agreement has already been signed on 5th October, 2005 between CPSUs, State Power Utilities, REC and Government of Orissa and detailed project reports in respect of 26 districts been submitted for approval and sanction of financial assistance, the Union Government has not sanctioned the projects as yet. As such, there is no progress of rural electrification since last three years.

There are 18189 villages and 38710 habitations to be electrified with a total requirement of Rs. 4000 crores, or more according to the figures generated by the survey for the DPR. Lately, it is notified that all habitations with population below 300 would not be considered. This will go against the interest of Scheduled Tribe people of Orissa as their villages have a population which is invariably less than 300. I urge upon the Government to consider specially this aspect relating to Tribal villages.

Further, all unelectrified households be considered for electrification under this scheme. As Public Sector Undertakings have taken lot of time in preparing DPRs there is no reason why the Ministry should hold it for such a long time. I urge upon the Government to sanction and release funds at the earliest for speedy electrification of rural households in Orissa.