

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : This integrated Rural Development Programme has been under implementation since 1981. I want to know whether any survey has been conducted or any monitoring system has been introduced for knowing the achievement and the utilisation of the scheme. What is the percentage of our achievement? What is the percentage of economic development for this programme? I would like to know whether it has been calculated and, if so, the Minister should provide the figure to us.

[Translation]

DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA : I have just informed that recently the Government have done an evaluation of the programme. Earlier, the criterion fixed for assessing the people living below poverty line was the annual income of Rs. 6400. According to that criterion 50 per cent of the people living below poverty line were benefited but according to the new definition of the people living below poverty line, the annual income has been fixed as Rs. 11,000. According to this definition only 16 per cent people have been benefited. It is true that we are constantly reviewing it but the benefits which should have been reached the poor are not reaching as per our expectation and that is why we have proposed this new change in this programme.

Rural Electrification

*144. +SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during the year 1995-96, state-wise;

(b) the time schedule drawn for their electrification; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on such electrification ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :
(a) to (c) . A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) . As per the Annual Plan for Rural Electrification for the year 1995-96, 4325 villages are scheduled to be electrified during the year. State-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(c) An allocation of Rs. 1166.91 crores has been made by the Planning Commission for the year 1995-96 for the rural electrification programmes, which *inter alia* include electrification of villages, energisation of pumpsets, System Improvement and load intensification in the electrified areas of various States.

Annexure

Number of villages to be electrified during the year 1995-96

Sl. No.	States	Villages (Nos.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	@
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	120
3.	Assam	900
4.	Bihar	400
5.	Goa	@
6.	Gujarat	@
7.	Haryana	@
8.	Himachal Pradesh	@
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	65
10.	Karnataka	@
11.	Kerala	@
12.	Madhya Pradesh	350
13.	Maharashtra	@
14.	Manipur	75
15.	Meghalaya	60
16.	Mizoram	45
17.	Nagaland	@
18.	Orissa	220
19.	Punjab	@
20.	Rajasthan	750
21.	Sikkim	@
22.	Tamil Nadu	@
23.	Tripura	20
24.	Uttar Pradesh	800
25.	West Bengal	520
Total		4325

@ Cent per cent villages electrified States.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 1166.91 crore for the financial year 1995-96. Now this financial year is going to close and the new financial year is about to start. I would like to know as to how much amount out of the allocation of Rs. 1166.91 crore has been spent till now? The proposed number of villages to be electrified this year are 4325 and out of it there are only 44 villages in a big state like Bihar, 350 villages in Maharashtra, 900 villages in Assam and 750 villages in Rajasthan. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what criteria had been fixed for selecting the villages and determining the number of villages for electrification?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : The criterion for determining the number is that the priority is given to the backward villages having majority of SC and

ST population. The selection of the villages is done by the State Government and on its recommendations we include the village in our programme.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply is not satisfactory. For example there is an Adivasi dominated block in our area which is comprises about 800 villages. On papers they are all electrified villages but in reality none of the villages is electrified. Today, in this materialistic age, the electricity has become an important part of our life. Therefore, in view of its importance, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when the Government propose to electrify all the villages of the country ?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Electrification of villages is very important for the development and the Ministry of power is very much aware of it. The rural Electrification department provides assistance to the State Governments from the available financial resources but sometimes the State Governments do not take much interest in it. Either they do not send the projects which they should or due to the over dues they do not get assistance. The shortcomings about which the hon. Member is referring to are all because of these reasons.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given the figures regarding electrification of villages for the next year. For example the target of 800 village has been fixed for Uttar Pradesh. I do not know whether the hon. Minister is aware of it or not but my experience in this regard is that the targets fixed during last 3-4 years have never been achieved. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that in my area the target fixed was 120 villages but by the end of the year it was reduced to 60 villages. In fact the electrification is being done there in 10 to 15 villages only during last 2-3 years. The first thing which I would like to say here is that the targets fixed by the Centre are never achieved. It is not even possible to achieve them. I know about Uttar Pradesh that UPSEB do not have funds. The Rural Electrification Corporation do not provide money because the earlier loan has not been returned by the Board. Because of this condition the villagers are suffering. They are not getting electricity. Even today, when we are heading towards 20th century, there are thousand of villages in every district of my Hilly and backward area where there is no electricity. There is also no other means available to the people of that area. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government have formulated any scheme to do away with this bottleneck ? If the funds are to be made available by the State Electricity Boards, then it is not possible to electrify the villages. Secondly I would like to know whether the Government would make some special arrangement for Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli districts so that the Rural Electrification Corporation may provide necessary funds for them without linking return of loan with this programme.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has stated the facts that only 800 villages have been included from UP. There are two reasons for it. There is an overdue of about Rs. 329 crore from UP and despite the repeated discussions with the Chief Minister and the Power Minister of the State, they

have not shown any interest in chalking out any programme for repaying the dues. Due to this reason the rural electrification programme is not progressing well. If they chalk out any programme, then they can definitely...

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: What is being done by the Central Government ? Will something be done by the Centre or will it watch helplessly....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : From our side we are not helpless but it is the State Government which rendered us helpless. We have no other alternative....(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: During the last three and half years there was President's is rule in UP for one and half year. You should do something atleast through your Governor. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : But the repayment has to be made by the State Government only....(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Some arrangement should be made otherwise we are not going to get electricity. You should make some arrangement.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Any one can understand that so long as over dues are not repaid, nothing can be done.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Electrification is one of the most important aspects specially for the development of villages. I would like to congratulate the earlier Maharashtra Government, the Tamil Nadu Government, the Karnataka Government, the Kerala Government and the Andhra Pradesh Government also because they have achieved 100 per cent electrification in village areas. But, in the eastern region of the country, specially in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, we have not completed even 60 per cent electrification. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government will make a survey to know for what reasons West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa were not covered in the scheme of providing electricity to the rural people and whether the Government is going to take whatever necessary action that is to be taken ?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that there are over dues of Rs. 168.91 crores from West Bengal and Rs. 500 crore from Orissa. I have just now told about UP also. It is very difficult to work with those State Governments which do not show interest in chalking out some programme. We have to invest on the generation of electricity and if they do not pay their dues it will affect the power generation also. Other Governments have paid their 100 per cent dues. The Governments of Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Tripura etc. have not only paid their dues but have given excess funds also. Naturally they have been given 100 per cent grants.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I would also like to felicitate those States which have achieved 100 per cent electrification. But, Sir, it might only be in name. Sometimes only one bulb burns and they say that the entire village is electrified like Minister of Rural Development who digs one well and says that the entire village has been supplied with potable drinking water.

My question is about the other States which have been allotted a quota of village. I would like to know the degree of electrification, the percentage of villages electrified in those States at the beginning of 1995-96 and what will be the percentage of electrification if all these quotas are filled at the end of 1995-96, let us say, in the case of Bihar, in the case of Uttar Pradesh in the case of West Bengal, that is in the big States?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Sir, if the Ministers of the concerned Governments give assurance about the repayment of over dues then the REC will definitely give funds to them. Whatever projects they may submit, we would try to implement them.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Sir, I have asked for the figures.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

NLC Zero Unit Project

*143. SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 210 MW Neyveli Lignite Corporation Zero unit project has been cleared;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, and if so, when the same will start functioning;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement this project under private sector ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) (a) and (b) . The 210 MW Zero Unit of Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) was accorded techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 10.8.1988, and was sanctioned by the Government on 23.3.1989. However, NLC was unable to pursue setting up of this Unit, owing to a resource crunch.

(c) and (d) . Government of India conveyed its approval on 14.8.1992 to the decision of NLC to entrust the project

to a private developer pursuant to which a Memorandum of Understanding (MOV) was signed on 31.8.1992 between NLC and M/s S.T. Power Systems Inc., USA for handing over the Zero unit to be built and operated by M/s ST CMS Electric Company. Under the MOU, the Zero Unit will have an installed capacity of 250 MW against the initial proposal of 210 MW. The project is expected to be completed within thirty-eight months after financial closure.

Hindustan Antibiotics Limited

*145. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work done in the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited in Pune-Maharashtra, has been evaluated ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Government have sold the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited to a joint venture company at cheaper price ;

(d) if so, the details and reasons therefor ;

(e) whether any minimum reserve price was suggested by the expert committee before the sale of the factory; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) . The performance of public sector companies is reviewed periodically. The performance of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited upto 31/12/95 was reviewed on the 9th January, 1996. It was noted that the cumulative value of production upto December, 1995, was Rs. 125 crores as against the target of Rs. 156 crores. The sales during the period upto December, 1995 were of the value of Rs. 118 crores as against the target of Rs. 155 crores. The company was advised to make all efforts to improve the performance.

(c) Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. has not been sold to any joint venture company.

(d) to (f) . Do not arise.

Capital to DTC

* 146. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 3 dated November 27, 1995 and state :

(a) whether Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950 provides for financing of Delhi Transport Corporation with a view to securing and promoting an efficient, adequate, economical and properly coordinated system of road transport in Delhi ;

(b) if so, the reasons for not having provided adequate capital to the D.T.C., so far ;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to provide adequate funds to the D.T.C. as per stipulation of the Act