

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.12.2009
ANSWERED ON

GRID ELECTRICITY IN REMOTE VILLAGES AND REMOTE HAMLETS .

3498

Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Will the Minister of COAL AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether grid electricity is unlikely to reach in 24,418 remote villages and remote hamlets by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government for electrification of the villages and hamlets and the funds allocated for the purpose;
- (c) whether Government's Common Minimum Programme (CMP) envisages electrification of all households by 2009; and
- (d) if so, the measures taken to achieve the CMP

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a):On the basis of information provided by the state government agencies for renewable energy, the number of remote unelectrified census villages where grid was not likely to reach was tentatively estimated during 2003-04 at 24,418. Subsequently, Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana was initiated by Ministry of Power for electrification of all unelectrified villages. The remote villages and remote hamlets where grid connectivity may not be feasible are shortlisted by the respective state governments and endorsed by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), which is the apex implementing agency for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. So far around 8650 such remote villages and hamlets have been identified.

(b):The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy is implementing a programme for providing financial assistance to the state implementing agencies for providing lighting/basic electricity in remote villages and remote hamlets through renewable energy sources. Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of upto 90% of the cost of the systems subject to the pre-specified maximum amounts is provided for approved projects. For the 11th Plan, an outlay of Rs.867.89 crores has been approved.

(c):The National Common Minimum Programme of the previous Government envisaged to provide access to electricity to all rural households in 5 years.

(d):The Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana of Ministry of Power targets to complete the sanctioned 1,18,499 villages by the end of the 11th Plan while the Remote Village Electrification Programme of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has set a target of covering 10,000 remote villages and remote hamlets during the same period.