GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFNEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO07.03.2011 ANSWERED ON VILLAGE MINI GRIDS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

1202

SHRI THOMAS SANGMA

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

(a)whether the Power infrastructure planning in the country, especially transmission and distribution, has taken cognizance of the fact that decentralized generation of electricity from abundant renewable energy sources is an efficient solution to universal access to electricity;

(b)whether such cognizance has led to regulatory and programmatic initiatives by Government, especially with respect to village mini-grids;

(c)if so, the details thereof; and

(d)the progress made so far on renewable energy standardized village grids, especially in low electricity penetration areas of eastern and north-eastern regions of the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a),(b)&(c): The RGGVY has taken cognizance of the role of decentralized generation of electricity from renewable energy sources also and has accordingly formulated a scheme for Decentralized Distributed Generation systems with local distribution network for electrification of villages where grid-connectivity is not feasible or cost-effective. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is also promoting such systems linked with mini-grids. These include SPV, RVE, Biomass gasifiers, micro-hydel, solar lights programme, etc. So far 30 biomass gasifier systems of 32 kWe with 100% producer gas engines have been installed which provide electricity in about 70 villages / hamlets / tolas in Bihar. An amount of Rs.136.08 lakhs has been sanctioned and released for installation of biomass gasifier systems in villages of Bihar. A target of 30 projects has been set for 2011-12. In addition, under Small Hydro Power programme, 166 micro-hydel projects connected to local distribution grid have been set up mostly in hilly and NE region States.

(d):The local grid capacity is determined by the connected load and utilization factor, standardized designs for which for different capacities are already available.