

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 07.03.2011**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**VILLAGE MINI GRIDS**

1212

Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu

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

(a) whether Government is implementing or planning to implement a programme for large scale establishment of village mini-grids to cater to rapidly escalating need of rural areas and to harness the potential of renewable energy through decentralized and distributed generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of village mini-grids, the funds allocated the time frame, and the progress made, so far State-wise, if any: and

(c) by when all the villages in the country would have electricity grids, either stand-alone or connected to the main power grid?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a),(b)&(c): The Government is implementing a Biomass gasifier programme which, inter-alia, promotes establishment of mini-grid in villages for generating power and supplying electricity to the villages for meeting their demand of electricity through biomass gasifier system using rice husk and other available agro-residues. 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.