# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.91 ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023

### **SAUBHAGYA YOJANA**

## †91. SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sought approval of the works done under the Saubhagya Yojana by extending the period of completion of work under the said scheme;
- (b) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government till now;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide relief by extending the completion period of the said scheme till the end of this year keeping in view the geographical conditions of Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the time line for the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

### ANSWER

# THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (d): This Ministry had received a letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2022 from Government of Rajasthan, wherein it was requested to extend the SAUBHAGYA Scheme till 31.12.2022.

The Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – Saubhagya in October, 2017 with the objective of achieving universal household electrification, by providing electricity connections to all unelectrified households in rural areas and all poor households in urban areas in the country. Under the aegis of Saubhagya, as on 31.03.2019, all households were reported electrified by the States, except 18,734 households in Left Wing Extremists (LWE) affected areas of Chhattisgarh. Subsequently, seven States namely Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Manipur, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh reported that around 19.09 lakh un-electrified households, identified before 31.03.2019, which were unwilling earlier but later expressed willingness to get electricity connection. This was also sanctioned. All these seven States had reported 100% households' electrification as on 31.03.2021. A total of 2.817 crore households were electrified since the launch of Saubhagya, up to 31.03.2021. Thereafter, some States had reported that 11.84 lakh households remained

to be electrified, against which States reported that 4.43 lakh households have been electrified. A total of 2.86 crore households were electrified under the aegis of Saubhagya including additional households in two tranches that were unwilling for electrification earlier but became willing later. The scheme stands closed as on 31.03.2022.

While fresh arising of new households is a continuous process and electrification of such households is expected to be taken care of by the Distribution Utilities, the Government of India stands committed to help the States to electrify all the households which existed when Saubhagya was sanctioned. In this respect, the Government of India recently issued guidelines for their electrification under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) and the States have been advised to pose their DPRs to the Ministry of Power in this regard.

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