

Pace of rural electrification

1776. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, under the rural electrification programme, Government is financing various schemes under RGGVY also;

(b) if so, whether the rural electrification works in Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa are getting delayed due to pending forest clearances;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to clear the pending rural electrification programmes and implementing them in an effective way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government of India is providing 90% capital subsidy for electrification of villages and free electricity connections to BPL households. The balance 10% is provided by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Ltd. as loan.

(b) and (c) The implementing Agencies have informed that 35 Villages in Gajapati District of Orissa and 2048 villages in Bokaro, Koderma, Hazaribagh, Girdih district of Jharkhand are affected due to forest clearance issue.

(d) For effective implementation of RGGVY, the following steps have been taken:

- i) An inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee review the progress of implementation.
- ii) States have been advised to set up district committees to monitor the progress of rural electrification works. All the States have notified formation of district committees.
- iii) The Government of India as also Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), conduct frequent review meetings with all the stakeholders; the concerned State Governments, State power utilities and implementing agencies for expeditious implementation of the scheme on the agreed schedules.
- iv) For speedier and effective implementation of projects, execution has been taken up on turnkey basis.
- v) To ensure qualitative execution of rural electrification works, a three tier quality control mechanism has been enforced under RGGVY.
- vi) Fund flow has been streamlined.
- vii) Chief Ministers have been requested for expeditious implementation of the scheme.
- viii) Chief Secretaries of States have been requested to resolve a State level issues by holding State level Coordination Committee meetings for expeditious implementation of the scheme.
- ix) Grant amount of BPL connection has been enhanced to Rs.2200/- from Rs.1500/-
- x) To take care of the cost escalation, cost norms for village electrification have been revised upward.

Change in power distribution policy

1777. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: