

[12 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4
2004-2005	5139.75	Break up not available	
2005-2006	7568.40	Break up not available	
2006-2007	11000.00	5169.00	5831.00
2007-2008*	10671.00	3678.00	6993.00

*As per budget proposals presented #
As per final grant figures

(d) to (0 The. approved Centre-State funding pattern for the SSA programme was notified in 2001 as 85:15 for the IXth Plan period, 75:25 for the Xth Plan period and 50:50 thereafter.

Implementation of RGGVY

*195. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government propose to take to implement the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, which involves providing access for electricity to rural households; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that the Below Poverty Line (BPL) Households in rural areas actually receive free connections as envisaged in the scheme and how will Government ensure that there is no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The following steps have been made to expedite the implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY):

- Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has entered into agreements with State Governments/State power utilities/distribution companies for implementation of the scheme.
- To augment the implementation capacities of the State electricity Boards/Power Utilities, the services of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) which have demonstrated their capability in timely project execution with effective project management have been taken. Rural Electrification Corporation has entered into Memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with CPSUs like National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (NTPC), Power grid, National Hydro

Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC).

- For effective implementation of the project, REC has also developed the framework covering the guidelines for formulation of projects, procurement of goods and services for projects to be executed on turn key basis, including bidding procedure, franchisee implementation and technical specifications for equipment/material and construction standards for adoption in project implementation/ execution.
- Detailed Project Reports (DRPs) are prepared district-wise for the purpose of cohesiveness and better implementation of projects.
- For speedier and effective implementation of the project, these are executed on turnkey basis.
- States have been advised to set-up district Committees to monitor the progress of rural electrification works. All the States have already notified formation of districts Committees.
- The Government of India as also REC, the nodal agency for RGGVY, are conducting frequent review meetings with stakeholders like concerned State Governments, State power utilities and implementing agencies for expeditious implementation of the scheme as per agreed schedules.
- Government of India has set up an inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee which periodically meets to sanction projects and review progress of implementation.

(b) RGGVY envisages release of 2.3 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) house hold connections with 100% grant @ Rs. 1500 per BPL house hold in accordance with the Kutir Jyoti dispensation. The Ministry of Power and REC, while approving the DPRs have been according priorities/preferences for the DPRs which cover more BPL connections. In 461 DPRs approved so far (including 144 approved in-principle) over 1.6 crore BPL house holds are to be covered. The Ministry of Power and REC have been consistently impressing upon the State Governments, State power utilities and implementing agencies to ensure and accord priority in releasing BPL household connections under RGGVY. These agencies have also been advised for organizing special drives to persuade BPL families in availing free connections.

In order to achieve the objective of no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households, the participating States have agreed that they shall ensure that there is no discrimination in supply of power between rural and urban households, in the agreements signed under RGGVY.

Recommendations of Hoda Committee

*196. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Committee of Secretaries appointed by the Prime Minister to look into iron ore exports and to consider a level-playing field for integrated steel industry manufacturers in raw material linkages, held its meeting in the month of October, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the Committee will also look after the Hoda Committee's recommendation for allocation of capital mines for such companies;

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) what are its main recommendations; and

(e) by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (e) On the directions of Prime Minister's Office a Committee was constituted by Cabinet Secretariat on 14.8.2006 to look into the matter of restricting iron ore exports at the current level and progressively reduce it in order to promote industrialization and value addition in the country. The Committee has held four meetings on 25.8.2006, 21.9.2006, 12.10.2006 and 10.11.2006. The Committee also considered the recommendations of High Level Committee (Hoda Committee) on National Mineral Policy and has submitted its report to the Government on 27th November, 2006. The Report is under consideration of the Government.

Power projects in Maharashtra

t*197. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.