

(c) if not, by when Government intends to fix such time-bound targets and implement the monitoring mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Government envisages improvement of energy efficiency of designated consumers under the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency. Nine notified energy intensive sectors are being covered in the 1st phase. These sectors include thermal power plants, cement, aluminium, iron and steel, pulp and paper, fertilizer, textile, chlor alkali and railways.

The sector wise energy efficiency targets and the unit-wise specific energy consumption (SEC) production targets for the 9 notified energy intensive sectors are proposed to be established in 2011. The implementation period to achieve the specified targets by these designated consumers proposed is three years from the date the norms are established. The monitoring mechanism for designated consumers is also proposed to be ready by 2011. The Government envisages a saving of around 10 million tons of oil equivalent in the energy consumption of the designated consumers from the 9 energy intensive sectors and an avoided capacity addition of 5623 MW.

(c) Does not arise.

Receding of Himalayan glaciers

*433. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether competent agencies have conducted comprehensive studies and research on the receding of glaciers in the Himalayan range;

(b) if so, the details of such agencies;

(c) whether it is a fact that the glaciers are receding in this area;

(d) if so, whether an assessment of the adverse effect of this phenomenon on the Indian subcontinent has been made; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the precautionary measures proposed or taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) Some of the relevant research and educational institutions involved in Glaciological Studies in the Himalayas in India are listed below:—

- Geological Survey of India, Northern Region, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Wadia Institute of Himalayan geology, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad
- Regional Centre for Field Operations and Research on Himalayan Glaciology, University of Jammu, Jammu
- Geology department of the H. N. Bahaguna, Garhwal University, Uttarakhand

- Centre for the Study of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
- Remote Sensing Applications Centre, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow
- Glacier Study Centre of G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Almora
- Snow Avalanche Study Establishment, Chandigarh
- Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Mumbai
- Birla Institute of Technology, Jaipur
- Geology Department, University of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, Uttarakhand
- Physical Research Laboratories, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- The Energy Research Institute (TERI)

The studies conducted by the Geological Survey of India indicate that the glaciers of Himalaya are receding at varying rates in different regions. The likely impacts include changes in the river hydrology, increased debris production and siltation of rivers in downstream regions.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change which was launched in June 2008, includes a National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system. A new research centre on Himalayan Glaciology has been established at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. This Mission and the Centre have the objective of addressing the issues relating to Himalayan glaciers.

The Government has developed Guidelines and best practices for Sustaining Himalayan Eco-system (G-She), which has been shared with all State Governments in the Himalayan Region.

Implementation of RGGVY

*434. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Nirman programme, launched by Government in 2005, includes provisions for connecting all the rural households under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) within five years;

(b) if so, the salient objectives thereof indicating the status of implementation, State-wise, at the conclusion of five years of its launching, showing the cost budgeted *vis-a-vis* incurred actually, year-wise;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has reviewed the implementation of the programme during any of these years; and