

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Government of India constituted a high level 'Committee on Power' under the Chairmanship of Shri V. G. Rajadhyaksha to examine all aspects of the functioning of State Electricity Boards and Central Organisations engaged in Electricity generation, transmission and distribution including organisational structure, management practices, planning of power systems efficiency of operations, financial performance, tariff-structure and legislative frame work and make recommendations for improving them.

(b) and (c) The Committee submitted its report in September, 1980. The Committee made several recommendations in regard to power sector planning. Project Formulation and Implementation, operation and maintenance of generation, transmission and distribution facilities, rural electrification, the financial performance of SEBs, the organisation and management of the power supply industry and research and development efforts needed for the power sector. The recommendations of the Committee have been circulated to the State Electricity Boards and other concerned. The Committee has made several recommendations for improving the overall operational performance of the power supply industry. Many of these recommendations are within the competence of the States and suitable guidelines have already been issued to them for implementing these recommendations. In addition the Committee made some major recommendations regarding the need to enlarge the role of the Centre in generation and EHV transmission, the need to strengthen the organisation of the power supply industry at regional level through the creation of Regional Electricity Authorities as statutory bodies and the need to improve the overall management of the State Electricity Boards through introduction of more objective procedures of recruitment, tenure and removal of the top personnel of the SEBs. The Committee has also made certain recommendations regarding rationalisation of tariff structure and higher

financial rates of return to be earned by the Boards.

In regard to the major recommendations of the Committee on Power, several rounds of discussions have been held with the States. The States have expressed their reservations against implementing the structural changes recommended by the Committee. It is considered desirable to continue consultations with the States for evolving consensus among them before any further action can be initiated for implementing these recommendations.

Electrification of Villages and Energisation of Pumping Sets in the Country

1516. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target fixed for electrification of villages and energisation of pumping sets in the country during 1983-84;

(b) whether the achievements during 1981-82 and 1982-83 are well below the targets fixed for the purpose; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken by Government to accelerate the rural electrification programme during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a): For the year 1983-84. Planning Commission has fixed a target of electrification of 23,631 villages and energisation of 3,67,779 pumping sets.

(b) and (c) The year-wise targets for electrification programme both in respect of villages and energisation of pumping sets in the country and actual physical

achievements during 1981-82 and 1982-83 are as under:—

Electrification of Villages:

	1981-82	1982-83
(a) Target . . .	25,796	25,512
(b) Achievement . . .	22,614	12,275 (upto 31-1-83)

Engerisation of pumping sets :

	1981-82	1982-83
(a) Target . . .	4,22,466	4,23,034
(b) Achievement . . .	3,22,763	2,06,359 (upto 31-1-83)

The main reasons for shortfall in the achievement of targets include one or more of the following:—

Short supply of construction material, lack of coordination between State Electricity Boards and development agencies of the State Government, lack of proper organisation, inadequate power supply, insufficient sub transmission system, cost escalation, difficult terrain in hilly and tribal areas, etc.

While gearing up the rural electrification programme within the resources available for the purpose, efforts are also continuously being made to increase availability of power and distribution facilities to make the programme more effective. Review meetings are being held with the SEBs to increase the tempo of work under this programme.

Rural Electrification Corporation has also taken various steps in this regard which include:—

(i) To ensure proper and close liaison with the field organisation of the Boards and to monitor the execution of on-going schemes, the Corporation has opened Project Offices in all States and also Sub-Offices in a few States.

(ii) The Monitoring Division at the Corporate Office maintains a close

watch over the implementation of sanctioned schemes and identifies major slippages in the execution of rural electrification projects with the help of the Project Offices for taking corrective measures.

(iii) The design of the rural electrification project and loaning policy has been revised to facilitate timely implementation of scheme.

(iv) REC has pursued SEBs to formulate scheme-wise work, programme indications, *inter-alia*, the works proposed to be done during the year, overall requirements of material for executing the works, material ordered/procured and organisational set up in existence or proposed to be set up.

(v) REC has set up a new Division headed by a senior officer of the Corporation to make a detailed study in respect of the States in Gangetic Valley with the objective to accelerate energisation of irrigation pumpsets for optimising ground water utilisation and also to ascertain and assess the total resources availability of the States. This Division will analyse data and prepare the economic profiles which would throw up—(a) conceptual model incorporating problems and prospects and (b) operative model to implement the action programme and also will draw up recommendations and strategy commensurate with the results of analysis and consistent with main objective of accelerating the rural electrification programme in the country.

Transfer of officers working in NTPC, Korba

1517. SHRIMATI / USHA MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of officers working in NTPC, Korba desiring their transfer;

(b) how many officers have been transferred from there during the last two years and on what grounds; and

(c) what is the number of officers desiring their transfer but who have not yet been transferred and the reasons therefor