

1	2	3
Central:		
Anta GT	413.0	935
Rajasthan APP	740.0	1,299
TOTAL:	1,153	2,234

(b) The energy requirement in Rajasthan during April-July, 2006 was 10411 MU.

(c) National Electricity Policy, *inter-alia*, envisages that demand of power be fully met by 2012 and that energy and peaking shortages be overcome with 5% spinning reserve being available. States have been accordingly advised to create adequate generation capacity to fully meet the growing demand of the electricity. Central Government on its part has geared up its Central Sector Undertakings to enhance their generating capacity.

Rural electrification in West Bengal

2516. SHRI MUKUL ROY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the position of West Bengal among the States of the country so far as rural electrification is concerned;

(b) the technical and financial assistance sought for by the State Government for electrification of all the villages by 2011; and

(c) the steps Central Government propose to help the State Government in achieving the targets of rural electrification?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) West Bengal has reported electrification of 32,698 out of 37,945 inhabited villages (2001 census) as on 31.3.2006, achieving 86.17% level of village electrification as compared to national level of 82.16%. The level of rural household electrification as per 2001 census is only 20.27% against the all India level of 43.52%.

(b) The Government of West Bengal so far has submitted thirteen Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) with total cost of Rs. 385.03 crore covering electrification of 4268 un-electrified villages and re-electrification

of 15 de-electrified villages under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojarw (RGGVY). All the thirteen DPRs have since been sanctioned.

The State has availed Rs. 156.11 crore under these sanctioned projects as on 31.07.2006. In line with the decision of the State Government of West Bengal, out of thirteen projects, two projects are under implementation by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), one project each by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), National Hydro Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) and balance eight by West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB).

The framework including the technical specification and construction standards for implementation of these Projects has been provided by REC.

(c) Under RGGVY, Government of India provides for 90% capital subsidy for overall cost of the project and the balance 10% as loan on softer terms by REC. Following steps have been taken by Government of India to speed up the rural electrification work under RGGVY:—

- * To augment the implementation capacities of State Electricity Boards/ power utilities, the services of Central Public Sector undertakings (CPSUs) have been offered to the States. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), National Hydro Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) are implementing RE projects in 134 districts under RGGVY.
- * REC has issued guidelines for formulation of projects for procurement of goods and services for projects to be executed on turn key basis, for selection of franchisees has also updated the existing REC's technical specifications for equipment/material and construction standards for adoption in project implementation/ execution.
- * Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are prepared district-wise for better implementation.
- * States have started constituting district committees to monitor the progress of rural electrification works.

[21 August, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

* Frequent review meetings are conducted with the concerned State Governments and implementing agencies.

Setting up of power plants in Chhattisgarh

‡2517. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals sent by Government of Chhattisgarh to the Ministry for approval and assistance to establish new power generation units;

(b) the date since when each proposal is pending;

(c) the details of the proposals which have been approved in years 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(d) the details of the progress made regarding approval and assistance to pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) As per Electricity Act, 2003 the requirement of according techno economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority has been dispensed with the thermal generation. No proposal has been received for setting up of any hydro power generation station in Chhattisgarh for concurrence of Central Electricity Authority.

Assistance to States providing free power to farmers

2518. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central Government assistance is given to the States which offer free power supply to the farmers:

(b) if so, how much is the amount granted to each State; and

(c) the subsidies or incentives given by the Central Government to match the free electricity given to the farmers by States?

‡Original notice of the question was received in-Hindi.