

[27 April, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

law; carrying out inspections of such buildings to see the progress of providing fire prevention/safety measures; and issuing orders for disconnection of supplies of electricity and water to such buildings.

Target for providing electricity to every household

† *480. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed a target to provide electricity to every house in the country in the next four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the preparations made by Government so far to achieve this target;

(d) the number of houses in Uttar Pradesh targeted to be provided with electricity under this target in the years 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to achieve this target within the scheduled time (four years)?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) A new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification has been launched for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme of completing Rural Household Electrification in five years.

Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for:

- (i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) sub-station in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.
- (ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all unelectrified villages/habitations with distribution transformers) in every village/habitation.
- (iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).

The scheme provides for electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country free of charge.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The services of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) have been offered to the States for assisting them in the execution of Rural Electrification Projects as per their willingness and requirement. With a view to augment the implementation capacities for the programme, REC has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with NTPC, POWERGRID, NHPC and DVC to make available CPSUs' project management expertise and capabilities to States wishing to use their services. This is being operationalised through a suitable Tripartite Agreement.

As per 2001 Census, the total number of rural households not having electricity in Uttar Pradesh were 1,65,05,786 (80.16% of the total number of households). Targets for electrification of households during the current and the next year is to be finalized by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Border trade through pangsaung custom gate

3556. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a customs gate namely 'Pangsaung' has been recently operationalised on the Indo-Myanmar border in Arunachal Pradesh for two days only in a month for the purpose of border trade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether barter trade is permissible on that gate and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) There is no Land Customs Station or customs gate named 'Pangsaung' in the State of Arunachal Pradesh along the Indo-Myanmar border. However, there is a Land Customs Station at Nampong (Pangsau Pass) in the State of Arunachal Pradesh along the Indo-Myanmar border, which is not operational.

(b) Border trade through Nampong Land Customs Station is not permissible as this Land Customs Station is not a designated customs port for the purpose of items of Article-I of Indo-Myanmar Trade Agreement of 1994.