

**ELECTRIFICATION OF VILLAGES IN
MAHARASHTRA**

817. SHRI G. R. PATIL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER/ सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to give priority for electrification of villages from backward areas of Maharashtra ; and

(1.) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER / सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय में

उपमंत्री (SHRI BAIJNATH KURUJ) : (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has recently fixed priorities based on percentage of villages electrified in the various districts of the State giving the highest priority to districts having the lowest percentage of villages electrified and has requested the Rural Electrification Corporation to sanction scheme in that order of priority. According to the

criteria adopted by the Corporation, other considerations are also taken into account in classifying backward areas like per capita income, per acre productivity, extent of irrigation facilities, availability of water resources, intensity of rainfall, susceptibility to drought of flood, in addition to the degree of electrification already achieved. Due preference is given by the Corporation to sanction of rural electrification schemes in backward areas vis-a-vis schemes of other areas. However, the main purpose of the Corporation in making distinction between backward areas and other areas is to extend to the former, concessional terms of financing.

In so far as the State of Maharashtra is concerned, the Rural Electrification Corporation has sanctioned 13 schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 1172.372 lakhs for electrification of 1361 villages and energisation of 24811 pumpsets. Out of these schemes, one scheme relates to a pilot rural electric co-operative and four relate to backward areas. The details of the schemes sanctioned for backward areas are indicated below :—

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of villages	No. of pumpsets	Amount sanctioned by REC (Rs. lakhs)
1.	Chandrapur District	91	1300	58.07
2.	Yavatmal District	76	1400	55.35
3.	Satara District	82	1100	56.992
4.	Bhir District	69	1550	54.71
TOTAL		318	5350	225.122

In regard to schemes to be considered by the Corporation, the Government of Maharashtra requested in June 1971 that preference should be given to 3 rural electrification schemes submitted by the Maharashtra State Electricity Board in respect of Nagpur, Amravati and Nanded Districts according to the criteria followed by that State. The scheme relating to Nagpur District has been sanctioned by the Corporation on 30.7.1971; the other two schemes are under consideration. The details of the scheme sanctioned for Nagpur District

are as follows :—

Name of the Taluks covered by the scheme	Nagpur, Kotol, Saoner, Ramtek and Umrer
Loan assistance sanctioned	Rs. 76.18 lakhs.
No. of villages to be covered	167.
No. of pumpsets to be covered	1530.