

(e) the progress made so far in this regard and the megawatt power required to provide electricity in all villages of Bihar along with the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. As per 2001 census there are about 7.8 crore rural households in the country having no access to electricity.

(b) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana covers all villages except those where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) is implementing the Remote Village Electrification Programme for electrification of such remote un-electrified villages numbering 25,000 through non-conventional energy sources.

(c) MNES has reported that Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA) had submitted initial proposal to them for electrification of some un-electrified villages during 2003-04 and 2004-05. MNES advised BREDA to submit firmed up proposals which they did not submit and hence those could not be taken up.

(d) MNES has received a tentative list of 273 un-electrified villages from BREDA for electrification through non-conventional energy sources. The list has been referred by MNES to Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Ltd. for verification as to whether it will be covered under RGGVY or Remote Village Electrification Programme depending on the feasibility of cost-effective grid connectivity.

(e) There are 1.201 crore rural households having no electricity in Bihar as per 2001 census. As reported by REC Ltd., for providing electricity to these 1.201 crore households, the power requirement is expected to be about 3100 MW, which in turn will involve an investment of the order of Rs. 16,500 crores, depending on the type of generation projects to be commissioned.

Increase in the cost of power production

†1856. **SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:**

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to rise in coal prices the cost of power production is also increasing in the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of the cost of coal in the total cost of power production at present; and

(d) the percentage of the same during 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The per unit cost of production of power consists of fixed cost and variable cost; the fuel cost constitutes the variable cost component. The variable cost depends on a number of factors such as size of the plant, technology used, proximity of the plant to the source of coal, grade of coal, station heat rate, auxiliary power consumption, etc. The cost of generation of electricity from the power plants is determined in accordance with Regulations on Terms & Conditions for Determination of Tariff issued by the appropriate Commission. The coal constituted about 63% & 66% of the average cost of energy sold by NTPC during 2003-04 & 2004-05 respectively.

Role of private sector in Delhi and Orissa

†1857. **SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:**

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the conclusions drawn by the National Advisory Council on energy policy after the role of private sector in power sector in Delhi and Orissa;

(b) if so, the main features of the conclusion drawn by the National Advisory Council; and

(c) whether Government have decided to implement the above recommendations, if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The National Advisory Council has drawn attention to the need for institutional strengthening in respect of formation, implementation and monitoring of an Integrated Policy in all its aspects. An Expert Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Member (Energy), Planning Commission on 12th August, 2004 to prepare an integrated energy policy. The draft report has been put up on the Planning Commission's website and presented in several fora for inviting comments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.