

(b) to (d) The Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses during 2004-05 were 33.82 per cent and overall commercial losses (without subsidy) were Rs. 22,129 crore during the said period, which indeed is a serious concern for the Government. The steps taken by the Government to reduce the transmission and distribution losses including theft are:

- (i) Metering of 11 kV feeders and consumer metering;
- (ii) Energy accounting and auditing;
- (iii) Strengthening the provisions, relating to theft of power in Electricity Act, 2003;
- (iv) Upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system through implementation of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP);
- (v) Incentivising for reduction of cash losses by State power utilities under APDRP;
- (vi) Introduction of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS); and
- (vii) Introduction of IT applications.

APDRP has two components viz. (i) investment component and (ii) incentive component. Under investment component, funds are released as Additional Central Plan Assistance to the States for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system. Under the incentive component of APDRP, 50% of the actual cash loss reduction effected is given as grant to such Utilities that reduce cash losses over the base year of 2000-01. The Government has sanctioned projects for all States under APDRP, aggregating to Rs. 19180.46 crores under investment component of APDRP, out of which APDRP component is Rs. 9264.65 crores and the Government has already released an amount of Rs. 6131.13 crores to all the States under this component of programme. Under incentive component of APDRP, an aggregate amount of Rs. 1536.64 crore has been released as incentive to eight States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Punjab and West Bengal for cash loss reduction.

Rural Electrification in Madhya Pradesh

†3135. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

proposal to Government for electrification of 185 villages situated in remote and forest areas;

(b) by when Government would approve the amount for the same; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Under the Remote Village Electrification Programme of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, the Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. (MPUVNL) has been working with the MNES for taking up electrification of remote un-electrified villages.

Out of proposals submitted by MPUVNL before 2004-05, MNES has provided financial support for electrification in 48 villages.

During 2005-06, a decision was taken to provide MNES support to only those villages which are verified by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for unfeasibility of electrification through grid connectivity. REC has so far identified 175 such villages in Madhya Pradesh. MPUVNL had submitted proposals for electrification through non-conventional energy sources of 57 of these villages. During 2005-06, MNES has approved support for electrification of 50 of these villages.

Strengthening of T&D system in Jhabua, M.P.

†3136. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a demand letter to NTPC to strengthen the transmission and distribution system of power in district Jhabua;

(b) if so, by when the funds would be sanctioned; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Detailed Project Report (DRP) for Rs. 1.17 crore under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for the Jhabua District of Madhya Pradesh was considered by the Steering Committee in its meeting held on 20.09.2004 but was not approved by the Committee due to slow progress in utilization of funds under APDRP. The approval of new schemes would depend upon the satisfactory progress under APDRP.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.