

Assocham's report on power situation

***528. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:**

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a countrywide survey undertaken by ASSOCHAM on power situation has disclosed that in some key States, energy deficit slides nearly over 8 per cent to 27 per cent in mid-April, 2006 adversely affecting the industrial production and agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details of the States where this survey was conducted;

(c) whether the lack of fresh investments and modernization coupled with huge transmission losses are responsible for grave power situation in the country; and

(d) if so, whether Government have examined this survey report and if so, the action Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) No survey was conducted by Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM). However, they have issued a press statement on 1st May, 2006 highlighting the shortage of power prevailing in the country during 2005-06.

(b) does not arise.

(c) It is true that investment in transmission and distribution was less than adequate in the past. This has had an impact on technical and commercial losses, which in turn contribute to power shortage.

(d) Question does not arise in view of answer to part (a) & (b) above.

Plan for electrification of villages

529. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI. B.J.PANDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government envisages electrification of all the villages in the country by the year 2009-10;