

**Hydro-electric power projects in Karnataka**

2771. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed hydro-electric projects in Karnataka lies in the midst of eco-fragile Western Ghats Rain Forests, and the man-elephant conflict zones;

(b) whether it is a fact that to avoid necessary environmental clearances, some of these projects have been scaled down into smaller projects of less than 25 MW which requires less than five hectares of forest land; and

(c) if so, the details of such projects and action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Techno-economic Clearance (TEC) for Gundia Hydro Electric Project (HEP) (1×200=200 MW), Karnataka lying in Western Ghats was accorded by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 25.04.2008. However, Western Ghat Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP), constituted by Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has not recommended execution of Gundia HEP as loss of diversity and environmental impacts would be significant. Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Shivasamudram HEP (run-of-river) (3×100+3×15=345 MW), Karnataka was received in CEA in April, 2012 for concurrence. However, the DPR was returned on 16.05.2012 with the observations that the project would be taken up for examination in CEA after inter-State issues are resolved. No other DPR of any HEP in Karnataka in the eco-fragile Western Ghats Rain Forests is pending with CEA for concurrence.

(b) and (c) As per the information furnished by Government of Karnataka, no project has been scaled down into smaller projects of less than 25 MW which require less than five hectares of forest land to avoid necessary environmental clearances.

**Use of power from renewable energy sources under RGGVY**

2772. SHRI A.V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tribal habitation or households have been electrified by means of the different locally available renewable energy resources under the Kutir Jyoti Programme or the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the funding available from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Sources was also taken into account; and

(d) if so, the details of the contribution from each Ministry and the disbursement procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Under Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG), component of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), villages/habitations where grid extension is either not feasible or not economically viable, are electrified using either conventional or renewable sources. Under DDG, 204 projects covering 396 Tribal habitations (villages/hamlets) and 12,751 households have been sanctioned in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The details are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of districts	No. of DDG projects	No. of Habitations	No. of Households
1	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam, Adilabad and Khammam	96	135	3500
2	Chhattisgarh	Korba and Sarguja	19	50	1440
3	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi, Umaria, Balaghat and Shadol	48	170	4053
4	Uttar Pradesh	Sonebhadra	41	41	3758
TOTAL:			204	396	12751

So far, projects covering 14 tribal habitations and 411 households have been completed in Visakhapatnam of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. As per RGGVY guidelines, 90% of project cost is given as grant to States/Discoms from RGGVY funds only.