

Energy Conservation Act, 2001 in view of India's commitment in the recently held Paris Climate Summit.

However, prior to Paris Climate Summit, an exercise had already been initiated to amend the Electricity Act, 2003, which, *inter alia*, includes provisions for promotion of renewable energy with the objectives to promote energy security.

#### **Electrification of villages**

1567. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to electrify all villages by 2018;
- (b) how many villages are yet to be electrified; and
- (c) what is the specification of an electrified village?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) As reported by the States, there were 18,452 un-electrified census villages in the country, as on 01.04.2015. Out of these, 9,134 villages have been electrified as on 24.07.2016 and the remaining un-electrified villages are targeted to be electrified by 1st May, 2018.

(c) According to Rural Electrification Policy, 2006, a village is defined as electrified, if:-

- (i) basic infrastructure such as Distribution Transformer and Distribution Lines are provided in the inhabited locality as well as the locality inhabited by weaker sections of the society/hamlet where it exists;
- (ii) electricity is provided to public places like Schools, Panchayat Office, Health Centres, Dispensaries, Community Centres etc.; and
- (iii) the number of households electrified should be at least 10% of the total number of households in the village.

#### **Mini power plants**

1568. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to install mini power plants in each State to augment power generation; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?