

Electricity provided to small and marginal farmers

767. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Minister is aware of the fact that the small and the marginal farmers are suffering due to shortage of power in Odisha;
- (b) how the Minister proposes to provide relief to such farmers; and
- (c) whether the Minister would consider to provide electricity at subsidized rates for use by small and marginal farmers for farming purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply of electricity to the various consumers including small and marginal farmers within a state at subsidized rates or nominal rates, is within the purview of the respective State Government / State Power Utility. Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments by way of allocating power from central sector generating stations and facilitating transfer of power at inter-state level to them.

As per information given by States / UTs to Central Electricity Authority (CEA), there is no shortage of power in Odisha. To meet the requirement of electricity in Odisha, the Central Government has allocated 1750 MW from various central Generating Stations to Odisha.

Power situation in the country

768. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) what was the demand for power in the country during 2015-16;
- (b) how much was the supply;
- (c) whether there was unutilized power overall and if so, the quantum thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of people having no power connection at the end of March, 2016, and the reasons for the mismatch; and
- (e) when Government expects to overcome it and the expected total expenditure thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) The requirement (Demand) and availability of power in the country during 2015-16 was 1,114 Billion Unit (BU) and 1,091 BU respectively.