

of 1.96%. However, during the current year 2016-17 (April 2016 to June, 2016), PLF has improved to 63.4%.

The major reason for decrease in PLF was due to rapid increase in power plant commissioned capacity (*i.e.* 86,565 MW from conventional sources and about 19,500 MW from renewable sources have been added during 12th Plan (from April 2012 to June, 2016)) even though the energy requirement (demand) during the current year 2016-17 (April 2016 to June, 2016) increased by 8.2 %. The efforts made to improve the PLF, *inter-alia*, are given below:

(i) UDAY (Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana), a scheme for the Financial turnaround of Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs), has been approved by the Government of India with an objective to improve the operational and financial efficiency of the State DISCOMs, which may enable them to procure power from the generators, thus increasing their PLF.

(ii) With "24x7 Power for All" initiative taken jointly with the State Governments, the access to electricity would increase and accordingly the electricity demand would also increase leading to increased utilisation of power plant.

#### **Health effect of LED bulbs**

773. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometimes back the Ministry had sold LED bulbs at subsidized rates;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in a study by American Medical Association, recently it has been found that the blue light of LED bulbs can cause serious disruption in sleep cycle and also have deleterious effects on eye sights; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The 'Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All' (UJALA) is a voluntary programme being implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL), a joint venture company of four Power Sector PSUs and is based on a sustainable business model where the cost of efficient lighting is repaid by consumer from savings in energy bill. There is no element of subsidy in the scheme and the aggregation of demand and bulk procurement has enabled reduction in procurement prices of LED bulbs from ₹ 310/- (February, 2014) to ₹ 54.90 (March, 2016) which is passed on to the consumer.

(b) and (c) The LED bulbs are provided with necessary safety features like phosphor coating along with optical diffusers, minimizing the harmful effect of the blue light. Further, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specification IS:16108 includes photo biological standards which ensure that LED bulbs conforming to it will have no harmful effect on the human eye. EESL follows this BIS standard in all its procurement of LED bulbs.

#### **Targets under DDUGJY**

774. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets set under the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY), State-wise;
- (b) how far these targets have been met, so far; and
- (c) the steps taken to accelerate electrification of all the villages in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) was launched in December, 2014 with an outlay of Rs. 43033 crore. The works include village electrification, system strengthening, feeder separation, metering and access to households. The projects worth ₹ 42392.47 crore have been sanctioned for various States and details are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Works are to be completed within 24 months from the date of award by the States. In addition to this, rural electrification component projects worth ₹ 32860 crore were also subsumed. State-wise achievements of rural electrification is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) For accelerating electrification of all the villages time bound implementation schedule has been drawn in consultation with States. Electrification process has been divided into 12 milestone and they are monitored at multiple levels including Ministry of Power, States and DISCOMs. Ministry of Power reviews the situation every month in RPM meeting and takes proactive actions to handhold States for completing the target.

#### ***Statement-I***

##### *State-wise details of project sanctioned under DDUGJY*

| Sl. No. | State/UT            | Number of projects | Total cost (₹ Crore) |
|---------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1       | 2                   | 3                  | 4                    |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh      | 178                | 944.16               |
| 2.      | Andaman and Nicobar | 2                  | 20.96                |
| 3.      | Arunachal Pradesh   | 1192               | 418.93               |