

Merger of Ministries/Departments

4239. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to merge some of the Ministries/Departments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government also proposes to converge schemes and right sizing of institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this process of merging and right sizing is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) No such proposal from NITI Aayog.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, the Government of India has rationalized Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) effective from the financial year 2016-17. The number of CSS has been reduced from 66 to 28 umbrella schemes. 6 schemes have been categorized as Core of the Core, 20 schemes as Core Schemes and remaining two as Optional Schemes. If required, the related schemes could be merged and implemented as “Umbrella Schemes” with flexibility to States to administer the admissible components in line with State-specific requirements.

Electrification of villages under DDUGJY

†4240. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is determined to provide electricity to all villages in the country under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of un-electrified villages in the country;
- (d) the number of such un-electrified villages in Bihar; and
- (e) by when Government would provide electricity to the remaining villages, along with the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India launched Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) in December, 2014 for various rural electrification works including separation of agriculture and non-agriculture feeders, strengthening and augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution infrastructure, metering at distribution transformers/feeders/consumers and electrification of villages.

(c) to (e) As reported by the States, as on 31.03.2017, there are 5,329 un-electrified census villages in the country including some uninhabited villages. As on 31.03.2017, there are 437 un-electrified census villages in Bihar. All the remaining unelectrified villages are targeted to be electrified by May, 2018.

Upgradation of coal-fired power plants

4241. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed more time for upgradation of coal-fired power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the old polluting plants have to be replaced with super critical, super efficient plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) In order to conserve scarce natural resources like land, water and coal, old and inefficient thermal power plants/units with an aggregate capacity of 7,738 MW, have been identified by respective power utilities for replacement with super-critical thermal power plants with an aggregate capacity of 18,560 MW, based on the availability of essential inputs like, Land, Water, Fuel and techno-economic feasibility. The details of such plants are given in Statement.