

Off-grid electrification

2796. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been achieved in terms of off-grid electrification measures in rural India; and

(b) in what ways does Government aims to bridge the gap between electrified villages and provision of 24x7 electricity in all village households?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) is for electricity access to the un-electrified villages/habitations, where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective. So far, 4,220 projects have been sanctioned under DDG for electrification of remote areas, 893 projects have been commissioned as on 28.02.2017.

(b) Electricity is a concurrent subject. As such, supply of regular power in villages is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/Power Utilities. However, Government of India has taken up a joint initiative with all States/UTs for preparation of State specific documents for providing 24x7 power supply to all households/homes, industrial and commercial consumers and adequate supply of power to agricultural consumers as per State policy.

DDUGJY envisages various works for rural electrification including village electrification, strengthening and augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution network along with intensive electrification of partially electrified villages under Rural Electrification (RE) component of DDUGJY to bridge the gap between electrified villages and provision of 24x7 electrification.

Change in norms for electrified villages

2797. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country which are electrified;

(b) the rules which determine whether a village is to be classified as electrified;

(c) whether Government is aware that many of the houses in villages, classified as electrified, don't have access to electricity;

(d) whether Government plans to change the rules or norms regarding the classification of a village as electrified;