

Electrification of every village of the country

†2535. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to provide electricity in every village of the country;

(b) if so, the details of action taken in this regard within the time-line fixed to achieve their target; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to provide electricity to every home after electrification of every village?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) to (c) As reported by the States, all the inhabited census villages across the country stand electrified as on 28.04.2019.

Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana - "Saubhagya" in October, 2017, with the aim to achieve universal household electrification by providing electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural and all poor households in urban areas across the country. All States reported electrification of all households as on 31.03.2019 except few households in LWE affected areas of Bastar region in Chhattisgarh.

Status of Ramagundam unit in Telangana

2536. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has begun work on Ramagundam unit, Karim Nagar, Telangana State recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) and (b) NTPC has a thermal power plant and a floating solar power plant in District Karim Nagar, Telangana, which are under construction. The details of these power plants are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Project/Capacity/State	Project Completion Target	Type
1.	Telangana-I, (2x800 MW = 1600 MW)	Q1, 2021-22	Thermal
2.	Ramagundam Floating (100 MW)	Q3, 2020-21	Floating Solar

Payment security mechanism for power generators

2537. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State owned power generators have payment security mechanism with the Reserve Bank of India on its board;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no such system for private sector generators; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the absence of such system, the private power generators often have to face delay in payments by DISCOMS, which add to their stress and result in defaults on loan servicing, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) Power Electricity companies owned by the State Governments are supplying power mainly to State Government owned distribution companies. No such reference has been received in the Central government for any kind of payment security mechanism with the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) Power purchase contracts, including with private generators, have mutually agreed payment security mechanisms to ensure timely payments. Such payment security mechanism may consist of letters of credit, escrow mechanism etc. In case of delay in payments by DISCOMS, provisions like late payment surcharge, regulation of power supply, sale to third party etc. have also been incorporated in the contracts.

(c) Delay in payments by DISCOMS to power generators is faced by all the generators. This impacts cash flow of the generators, who have to make advance payments for fuel, railways etc. Ministry of Power has issued an order in June 2019 that payment security mechanism, as per the contracts, has to be maintained by the Discoms otherwise power supply will be regulated. This has been successfully implemented with effect from 01.08.2019.