

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1599  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003  
FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION  
PUNNULAL MOHALE

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether electrification of a number of villages in the country is yet to take place;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether this work is not being completed in many States due to financial constraints;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps being taken to ensure electrification of villages of these States?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER ( SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA )

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b): Details of un-electrified villages in the country are given at Annexure I.

(c) & (d) : There are no constraints of funds for village electrification. However, there are other reasons attributable for slow progress of village electrification:

- Leftover villages are generally located in remote and difficult areas
- Electrification of villages is costly and un-remunerative
- Inadequate sub-transmission and distribution system
- Non-repayment of dues of REC resulting no sanction of fresh projects.
- Lack of demand from the consumers due to general backwardness and poor economic conditions

(e) : In order to accelerate the pace of rural electrification in the country, the following initiatives have been taken by the Government of India:

i) From the year 2001-02, Rural Electrification has been treated as Basic Minimum Service under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). Under this programme funds are released for all the six components including rural electrification. During the year 2002-03, Rs. 363 crores was released under PMGY for rural electrification. In 2003-04, a budgetary provision of Rs.2767 crores has been kept under PMGY for all the six components including rural electrification..

ii) Under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP), Rs. 600 crores has been released to the States during 2002-03 as compared to release of Rs.175 crores in the year 2001-02. Again during 2003-04 a budgetary provision of Rs.600 crores has been kept under MNP.

(iii) Govt. have approved grant of interest subsidy of Rs.563.87 crores under Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme (AREP) during the 10th Plan period for electrification of unelectrified villages, un-electrified hamlets, dalit bastis and households. Out of which an amount of Rs.163.87 crores was provided in the budget of 2002-03. Of these, Rs.157.87 crores has been utilized. For the year 2003-04 a budget provision of Rs. 100 crore has been made.

(iv) Under Kutir Jyoti Programme, Government provides funds to the States as 100% grant for electrification of household below poverty line. During the year 2002-03, Rs.138.65 crores was released to the States and 9.35 lakh single light connections were provided. In 2003-04 a budgetary provision of Rs.100.00 crores has been provided.

(v) REC has also offered loan to State Electricity Boards/States on very low rate of interest for village electrification, electrification of hamlets and dalit bastis ranging from 3-1 %. REC has earmarked Rs. 500 crores every year for village electrification for the next four year.

(vi) States can have access to funds from Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) under NABARD.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1599 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 31.7.2003.

Unelectrified Villages as on 31.3.2003

Sl. No.	States/UT	Total No. of Villages as per 1991 census	No. of unelectrified villages
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26586	-#
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3649	1307
3.	Assam	24685	5640
4.	Bihar	67513	17491
5.	Jharkhand		
6.	Goa	360	-
7.	Gujarat	18028	-#
8.	Haryana	6759	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	107
10.	J&K	6477	182
11.	Karnataka	27066	296
12.	Kerala	1384	-
13.	Madhya Pradesh	51806	1462
14.	Chhattisgarh	19720	1399
15.	Maharashtra	40412	-#
16.	Manipur	2182	178
17.	Meghalaya	5484	2754
18.	Mizoram	698	7
19.	Nagaland	1216	-
20.	Orissa	46989	9728
21.	Punjab	12428	-
22.	Rajasthan	37889	983
23.	Sikkim	447	42
24.	Tamil Nadu	15822	-
25.	Tripura	855	38
26.	Uttar Pradesh	97122	18042
27.	Uttaranchal	15681	2785
28.	West Bengal	37910	7694
	Total (States)	586165	70135
	Total (UTs)	1093	-#
	Total (All India)	587258	70135

# remaining not feasible