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Title: Need to ensure proper implementation of electrification of villages under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in West Bengal.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Sir, the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) was launched by the Government of India as a flagship programme to provide access to electricity to all rural households. As on March, 2013, a total of 12,594 villages with 9.92 lakh BPL rural households were electrified by West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited under RGGVY scheme against the target of 14,113 villages covering 15.39 lakh BPL rural households.

The C&AG State Audit Report for the year ended March, 2013 reveals:

1. DPRs were prepared without preparing the Rural Electrification Plan or conducting field surveys. Consequently, BPL households had been omitted from the DPRs, while villages not requiring or facing statutory/physical constraints in electrification had been included in the DPRs.
2. Tenders were floated without inserting clauses to ensure reasonability of prices of materials to be supplied leading to varying ex-works prices for the same materials supplied by the same contractor in different packages. Execution of works and creation of infrastructure was delayed on account of belated delivery of materials, inadequate deployment of manpower, lack of coordination, etc., leading to shortfall in the number of BPL rural households electrified. Besides, liquidated damages were not imposed on the contractors.
3. Although adequate funds were received, the progress of works was not commensurate with disbursements. Further, the receipt of funds had not been reconciled.
4. Monitoring was ineffective with belated third party inspections.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Power whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of these Audit observations and, if so, what action the Ministry has taken for proper implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana and the extent to which the remaining villages in West Bengal have been electrified as on date.