

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2592
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2006
REGIONAL OFFICES OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of places where the Regional Offices of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are located State-wise and its main functions thereof;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to wind up some of the Regional Offices of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy;
- (c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to promote the rural based renewable energy schemes/ programmes in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a),(b) &(c): The Regional Offices of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are located at the following places :

- 1) Chandigarh
- 2) Ahmedabad
- 3) Lucknow
- 4) Guwahati
- 5) Bhopal
- 6) Hyderabad
- 7) Bhubaneswar
- 8) Chennai and
- 9) Patna .

The main functions of the Regional Offices are to maintain liaison with the State Government / Departments and implementing agencies apart from facilitating monitoring activity. However, with the setting up of State Nodal Agencies in most States, the utility of Regional Offices has declined. Rationalisation of the Ministry's organizational structure in keeping with its needs is an ongoing process.

(d): Several promotional schemes / programmes are there for deployment of renewable energy systems/devices in rural areas, including those in Tamil Nadu which include family and community type biogas plants, biomass gasification systems and solar cookers/dryers programmes and the Remote Village Electrification programme for villages not likely to receive grid- connectivity under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidutikaran Yojana. To promote renewable energy schemes/ programmes in rural areas, including those in Tamil Nadu, fiscal and financial incentives are being provided that include capital / interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, concessional duties and relief from taxes to attract private investment. Publicity and awareness on the use of renewable energy systems / devices are created through print, postal and electronic media and special events like the Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas which are being organised. In addition, District-level Advisory Committees have been constituted in states to facilitate effective coordination of renewable energy schemes / programmes .