GOVERNMENT OF INDIA NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3430
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2006
POWER FROM WASTE
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Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has conducted any study regarding utilization of funds meant for power generation from urban and industrial waste and solar energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to constitute District Level Advisory Committees in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): On utilization of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) for power generation, disbursement of central financial assistance towards past subsidy for setting up such plants, the Supreme Court in its interim order has stayed such disbursement since May, 2005 on a PIL suggesting conversion of Municipal Solid Waste in Class-I cities to compost as the preferred route. In so far as utilization of solar energy for power generation purposes is concerned, the same is not being supported in view of the high cost of generation, currently placed at around Rs. 20 / kWh (without battery back-up). Under the programme on Energy Recovery from Industrial Waste central financial assistance is released on re-imbursement basis on successful commissioning of the project. Further, state government departments / state nodal agencies are required to periodically submit progress reports, utilization certificates and audited statements of expenditure in support of utilization of funds released. This apart, Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) audits accounts of concerned state government departments.

(c)&(d): District-Level Advisory Committees for Renewable Energy have already been constituted in 550 districts to facilitate effective coordination of renewable energy schemes / programmes at the field level. The Committee is headed by the District Collector/Deputy Commissioner with the Project Director, District Rural Development Agency or the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad as Member-Secretary. Membership comprises district officers belonging to allied departments such as Forests, Industries, Agriculture, Information Technology, Education, Health, etc; Representatives of the District Bar Council

(or Govt. Pleader), Lead Bank, Non-Government Organizations, Rotary Club, Lions Club, locals industry associations, etc. have also been included as members. At least six members of the Committee are required to be women.