

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:229

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010

SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION

Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Patel Shri Devji

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

- (a) whether the Government has set an ambitious target of generating 20,000 Mega Watt of solar energy by 2022 under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the action plan chalked out for implementation of the Mission and the places identified for the setting up of solar power projects in the country, State-wise;
- (c) the present status of solar energy generation and the number of on-going solar power projects in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up solar valleys in the country to augment the solar energy generation in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Statement referred to in Parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.229 for 12-03-2010

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Government has launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission to develop solar energy technologies to make solar power competitive to conventional grid power by 2022. The Mission will be implemented in three phases. Government has approved the target to set up 1,100 MW grid connected solar plants, including 100 MW capacity plants as rooftop and small solar plants for the first phase of the Mission till March, 2013. NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN), the trading subsidiary of NTPC, is the nodal agency for purchase of 1,000 MW capacity of grid solar power (connected to 33 KV and above grid) from the project developers at a tariff fixed by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) for purchase of solar power. NVVN will sign a PPA with each project developer for a period of 25 years as fixed by CERC. For each MW capacity of solar power for which PPA is signed by NVVN, Ministry of Power will allocate to NVVN an equivalent MW capacity from the unallocated quota of NTPC stations. NVVN will bundle this with solar power and sell this power at a rate fixed as per CERC regulations. The utilities will be entitled to use solar power to meet their renewable power obligation (RPO).

100 MW capacity roof top and small grid connected solar power plants will also be supported in the first phase of the Mission. The tariff for purchase of solar power from such solar plants will be fixed by the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions and the Ministry will provide a generation based Incentive for power fed to the grid.

Under the Mission no specific locations have been identified by the Ministry. The project developers are expected to set up solar power plants on build, own and operate basis any where in the country, depending upon the availability of land, solar resource and other facilities.

In addition, 200 MW capacity equivalent off-grid solar applications and 7 million square metre solar thermal collector area are also proposed in the first phase of the Mission, till 2012-13. The off-grid applications may be supported through subsidy and/or soft loan at 5% annual interest rate depending up on the category of users.

The Mission will also support research and development to reduce cost, improve efficiency and overall performance of solar energy systems and also for development of new materials and devices.

(c): During 2009-10, four solar power plants of megawatt size capacity have been installed in Karnataka (6 MW), Punjab (1 MW) and West Bengal (1 MW). In addition, two solar plants of 1 MW capacity each in Karnataka and Punjab and three plants of total 142 kW capacity in Delhi have been sanctioned for tail-end grid connection.

(d) & (e): Currently, there is no specific proposal under consideration in the Ministry to set up a solar valley to augment the solar energy generation in the country. However, over a period of time, setting up of a large number of solar power plants in a specific

region, on the basis of availability of land, solar resource and other facilities could help in development of solar valleys.