

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2624
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010
INSTALLATION OF SOLAR HEATERS
Dutt Smt. Priya Sunil

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to install solar water heaters in poor households and Government buildings in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up micro solar power plants in the Government buildings in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The smallest solar water heater for domestic use may cost Rs.15,000 – 20,000/-. Keeping in view the initial investment, Ministry is promoting solar water heaters in all households by providing loans at 2% to users through various banks and financial institutions. These loans are available to them at 0% in the states of North - East, Sikkim, H.P, Islands, J & K and in newer States e.g. Uttrakhand, Chattisgarh and Jharkhand. Capital subsidy is also available to Builders & Developers/ Development Authorities/ Housing Boards for incorporating solar water heaters in housing complexes. For Govt. buildings, the Ministry has been suggesting to various Central Ministries/ Departments to maximize the use of solar water heaters at their establishments. A few Ministries have already issued necessary Orders in this regard. A number of Municipal Corporations/ Municipalities have also modified their building bye-laws to make the use of solar water heaters mandatory in certain category of buildings. Over 3.30 million sq. m. of collector area has so far been installed in the country for water heating out of which around 70% is in the household sector.

(c) & (d): Micro solar power plants in Government buildings may be useful for lighting and other small power requirements. These systems are, however, expensive at present. The Ministry, is, therefore, encouraging such installations at places where power cuts are high during daytime and diesel is being used to generate electricity. A scheme is under implementation to promote such systems at various establishments including Government buildings wherein part support is available from the Ministry