

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1084
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010
DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR CITIES
Das Shri Ram Sundar;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

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

- (a) the total number of cities targeted to be developed as solar cities in the country during the year 2010-11 alongwith the progress made so far in this regard;
- (b) the details of the scheme formulated by the Government for the electrification of villages in the country with solar energy;
- (c) the total number of villages electrified with solar energy in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has set any target for electrification of villages in the country with solar energy for the remaining period of Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): A total of 60 cities/towns are planned to be developed as solar cities during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. In-principle approval has been given to 37 cities so far, out of which sanction has been issued to 15 cities in which the Master Plan is under preparation. The remaining 23 cities are planned to be developed as solar cities during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12.
- (b): The Ministry is implementing a programme for electrification of those remote unelectrified census villages and unelectrified hamlets of electrified census villages in various states where grid-extension is either not feasible or not cost effective and which are not covered under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. Such villages are provided basic facilities for electricity/lighting through various renewable energy sources including solar energy. The Ministry provides Central Financial Assistance upto 90% of the costs of systems, subject to pre-specified maximum amounts. The Programme is implemented in various states by state notified implementing agencies. Projects are sanctioned on a case-to-case basis, to the state implementing agencies on the basis of proposals submitted by them, incorporating details such as the technology proposed to be used.
- (c): State-wise details of villages and hamlets taken up during the last three years and the current year under the programme are given in Annexure.
- (d)&(e): A target for covering 10,000 villages and hamlets through renewable energy including solar energy has been set during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.