

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4121  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010  
HARNESSING SOLAR POWER  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India and United States of America (USA) have joined hands to harness solar power;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any discussion in this regard was held during the recent visit of US President to India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and field of co-operation identified to harness the solar energy?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b) : A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in November, 2009 between India and USA to enhance cooperation on Energy Security, Energy Efficiency, Clean Energy and Climate Change. This is also one of the areas identified for cooperation for research under the Agreement signed in November, 2010 between the Planning Commission and the Department of Energy, USA.

In addition, the Solar Energy Centre, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has signed an MoU with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), USA in November, 2009 on cooperation in the area of Solar Energy. The main areas of cooperation identified in this MoU include solar resource assessment, solar photovoltaic and solar thermal component reliability, concentrated solar power pilot plant, and exchange of technical and market experts to advance solar energy in India.

(c) & (d) : During the visit of the President of the United States of America (USA) to India from 6-9 November, 2010, India and the USA resolved to strengthen their partnership in creating the green economy of the future through joint research and deployment of clean energy resources, including solar energy. Both Governments also signed an Agreement to establish a Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Centre to focus on solar energy.