

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4739

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010

SETTING UP OF JCERDC WITH US

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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has signed any agreement with the US for setting up of a Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Centre (JCERDC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms/conditions/aims/objectives/timeline of the agreement;
- (c) whether the Government has identified the location for setting up of the said centre;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria fixed for identification of site;
- (e) the details of funding of the centre alongwith the benefits derived from setting up such a centre; and
- (f) the details of other steps taken by the Government towards development of clean technologies?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES; AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes, Madam;

(b) An agreement has been signed between United States (US) Department of Energy and Government of India on 4th November 2010 for setting up of an Indo-US Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Centre (JCERDC) to Enhance Cooperation on Energy Security, Energy Efficiency, Clean Energy, and Climate Change. The goal for the Centre is to spur truly collaborative Research and Development (R & D) between US and Indian Researchers on potentially breakthrough clean energy technologies.

(c) & (d): JCERDC is not envisaged as a new bricks-and-mortar center and its work will be conducted in existing facilities by consortia with the knowledge and experience to undertake first-rate collaborative research programs between the US and India. Each consortia would be led by an institution each in India and US, responsible for overall management of the India and US funded participants in the consortium respectively.

(e) Indian and US governments have committed \$5 million per year for five years (subject to yearly appropriations) for the Center and the consortia will match the government funding with their own funds. Under this arrangement, both the governments have agreed to invite the proposals through a joint India – US Funding Opportunity Announcement in the three agreed priority areas of building efficiency, solar energy, and advanced biofuels, for collaborative joint R & D potentially breakthrough clean energy technologies.

(f) As of now, no such arrangements with any other country have been entered into by the Ministry of Science and Technology.