

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1596  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011  
PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Singh Shri Dhananjay

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

- (a) the domestic production status of solar photovoltaic cells in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to do away with the indigenous content requirement in the photovoltaic cells in the solar energy sector;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps/proposes to take steps to become a manufacturing base for solar photovoltaic cells and move up the value chain by adopting best technologies in collaboration with global technology leaders; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): A number of companies are engaged in manufacture of solar cells, modules and PV systems in the country. Under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, it is mandatory to use indigenously manufactured crystalline silicon solar modules for the grid connected solar power projects. However, import of solar cells and thin film modules or modules manufactured using other technologies is permitted. At present there is no proposal under consideration to review this arrangement.

Government has already created opportunities to attract investments in manufacture of solar technologies in the country by announcing the policies and the targets for solar projects under the Mission.