

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2569
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011
SOLAR LIGHTS
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether grant is likely to be provided from the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) fund to gram-sabha/block/zila panchayats for purchase of solar equipment including solar lights in the country;
- (b) if, so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when it is likely to be provided?

Answer

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

(a),(b)&(c): Under the scheme to promote off-grid solar applications, announced in 2010-11, under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission the Ministry is providing a subsidy of 30% and/ or loan at 5% annual interest to the beneficiaries for installation of solar photovoltaic systems including solar lanterns, home lights, street lights and stand-alone power plants in the General Category States. The balance cost can be met by either the beneficiaries from their own sources or by the State governments or from the MPLAD/ MLALAD funds. There is no restriction under the scheme on Gram Sabha/ block/ zila panchayats from receiving grants from the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for purchase of solar equipments including solar lights.