

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:485
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2009
SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS
Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias

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

- (a) whether several Centrally sponsored/ financed solar energy projects in the country particularly in rural areas are not functioning properly;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a), (b)&(c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a),(b)&(c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 485 regarding "Solar Energy Projects" for reply on 07.08.2009 by Shri Raju Shetti, MP.

(a) & (b): The solar energy systems installed in the country including rural areas under the Ministry's programmes have been found to be functioning satisfactorily in general. Field monitoring and evaluation studies undertaken by independent agencies i.e. the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi, National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi and the Integrated Research & Action for Development (IRADe), New Delhi for the solar energy systems installed in the country including rural areas have indicated satisfactory performance for 70-100 percent systems. The systems include solar home lighting systems, solar street lights, solar lanterns, solar pumps, solar cookers and solar power plants.

(c) : For improving the functionality of the systems, the Government has taken several steps such as

- (i) for better implementation and maintenance of the systems, recently the Ministry has decided to implement the programmes in project mode
- (ii) prescribing specifications of systems and their type testing by authorized centres
- (iii) provision of warranty for a minimum period of two years for the complete solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems, including the batteries and minimum ten years for PV modules
- (iv) provision of comprehensive/annual maintenance contracts for the systems for 5 years, including warranty period
- (v) additional facilities of after sales service / maintenance through the Akshya Urja Shops, service networks of the manufacturers and local level offices of the state renewable energy development agencies.