

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3116  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011  
SOLAR ENERGY  
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

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

- (a) whether the Government has estimated the money that the country can save by using solar energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for large scale solar power generation in the country in order to reduce our dependence upon coal and oil?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Solar energy applications, particularly decentralized applications, have substantial potential of saving money through mitigation of use of conventional fuels. However, the exact amount of savings accruing is dependent on the extent of use of these applications and prevailing local climatic conditions.

(c): The Government is making all out efforts to promote development and deployment of these devices/systems by providing financial and fiscal incentives. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, launched by the Government in January 2010, aims to set up 20,000 MW grid solar power, 2,000 MW of off-grid solar power including 20 million solar lights, and 20 million square meter of solar thermal collector area by 2022. Grid parity is envisage to be achieved by this time.