

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:437

ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011

PROMOTION OF SOLAR ENERGY

Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has initiated schemes/programmes for harnessing solar energy both for lighting and heating purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated and utilised by the State Governments for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) the present status of electrification of un-electrified villages/ hamlets through solar energy?

Answer

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

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

Statement

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a),(b)(c)&(d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 437 for 2nd September 2011.

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Government has been providing central financial assistance of 30% of the cost of installation subject to a maximum of Rs. 81/- per Wp under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission for solar lighting systems in general category states and up to 90% in Special category states, UT Islands and districts with International Border. The Ministry is also providing 30% subsidy and 50% re-finance of the benchmark cost of Rs. 300/- per Wp for solar lighting systems through NABARD.

The Ministry has been providing central financial assistance (CFA) under the Remote Village Electrification Programme (RVE) for lighting/ basic electrification in those remote un-electrified census villages and un-electrified hamlets of electrified villages, where grid extension has not been found feasible by the State Governments and hence are not covered under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojna. Under the Programme, the Ministry provides CFA of up to 90% of the cost of systems subject to pre-specified limits.

The Ministry has been providing central financial assistance of Rs. 3000/- per sq. meter of collector area for evacuated tube based solar water heaters and Rs. 3300/-per sq. meter for flat plate collectors based systems. The Ministry is also providing assistance for solar air heaters, solar cooker and solar steam systems at 30% of cost subject to certain benchmarks.

(c): State-wise details of funds released by the Ministry for Off-grid SPV Systems Programme, Remote Village Electrification Programme and Solar Thermal Programme during the last three years and current year are given in Annexure-I, Annexure-II and Annexure-III respectively. Most of these funds have been utilized. Projects normally take a year for completion. Further funds are released -only after receiving utilization certificates and monitoring of physical progress of projects.

(d): Full electrification of villages as per definition of electrification is not being done using solar in these villages. However, under the Remote Village Electrification Programme, lighting/ basic electrification of 8846 nos, of remote villages and hamlets has been completed as on 30th June, 2011 in different parts of the country.