

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2728
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011
CONFERENCE ON SOLAR ENERGY
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a) whether any conference on solar energy was recently held in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the outcome of the conference alongwith the number of countries participated therein;
- (c) whether India has pledged to fine tune its solar policy to expedite the project implementation and extend concession for merchant solar projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and future strategy chalked out for optimum use of solar energy?

Answer

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

- (a): Recently, two international Conferences were held in the country in the area of solar energy, namely, International Congress on Renewable Energy during 2-4 November 2011 at Tezpur and SOLARCON India during 9 - 11 November 2011 at Hyderabad.
- (b): These conferences provided business opportunities to the participants and exhibitors and for exchange of scientific and technical information about various aspects of solar energy. The number of countries which participated in these conferences are reported to be 3 and 32, respectively.
- (c)&(d): There is no pledge made by India to fine tune its solar policy to expedite the project implementation and extend concession for merchant solar projects. However, the Ministry has been holding consultations with the stakeholders from time to time with a view to fine tune the policies announced under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM). In addition, the Government has amended Tariff Policy to allow fixed percentage of solar power under the Renewable Purchase Obligations. This policy is complemented by solar specific Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) mechanism which could facilitate setting up of merchant solar projects.