

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:174

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011

SOLAR APPLIANCES

Devi Aswamedh;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) the details of research and development works undertaken so as to bring qualitative improvements in street lights, Light Emitting Diode (LED) and other home appliances being operated through solar energy;
- (b) whether any subsidy is provided by the Government for promotion of such appliances;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to promote the use of solar appliances in Medium and Small Enterprises in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a),(b),(c),(d)&(e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 174 for 2n/ December 2011.

(a): The Ministry has been supporting research and development activities in solar photovoltaic with a view to increase the efficiency, reliability and life and reduce the cost of solar cells, modules and solar photovoltaic systems including solar lighting systems using various light sources such as CFLs LEDs, etc. The LED luminaire in the lighting system has resulted in the use of lesser capacity of PV modules for solar lanterns, home lights and street lights. Several organizations including Solar Energy Centre and TERI University are working in this area. This includes studies on design of luminaire optics and diffuser used in LED lights.

(b): Yes, Madam

(c): The Government has been providing central financial assistance of 30% of the cost of installation of solar photovoltaic systems such as solar lanterns, home lights and stand-alone power plants subject to a maximum of ₹ 81/- per Wp under Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission in general category states and up to 90% of the project cost in Special category states, UT Islands and districts with International Border. The Ministry is also providing 30% subsidy and loan at 5% annual interest rate for 50% of the benchmark cost of Rs. 300/- per Wp for solar lighting systems through NABARD. Under JNNSM, the Ministry is 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. The Ministry is 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.

(d)&(e): The Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme under JNNSM is open to all categories of users including Medium and Small Enterprises. They are entitled to avail either 30% subsidy of the project costs subject to the above mentioned limits or interest subsidy for installation of solar photovoltaic and solar thermal systems.