

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2706

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011

SOLAR CITY

Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina ;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Government has selected second-tier cities in the country and has sanctioned funds to aid their transition to 'solar city' status;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra; and
- (c) the present capacity of production of solar energy and the measures to augment the solar capacity in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a): The Ministry proposes to develop 60 cities as 'solar cities' during 11th plan period. The criteria for identification of cities include a city population between 50,000 to 50 lakh (with relaxation given to special category States including North-East States), initiatives and regulatory measures already taken along with a high level of commitment in promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy. The Solar City aims to reduce a minimum of 10% of its projected demand of conventional energy at the end of five years through energy efficiency measures and generation from renewable energy installations.

(b): Based on proposals received by the Government from various States, 'in-principle' approval has been given to 48 cities to be developed as solar cities in the country. Out of these, sanctions have been given to 37 cities which have engaged consultants for preparation of Master Plans. The State-wise names of the Cities identified for developing as Solar Cities including in Maharashtra are given in Annexure. So, far a total amount of Rs.17.23 crore has been sanctioned for these 37 cities of which Rs. 2.75 crore has been released.

(c): The present installed capacity of grid-interactive solar power is 147 MW as on 30.11.2011. The ministry has launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission which aims to augment the grid interactive solar power upto 20,000 MW by 2022, through various fiscal & financial incentives.