

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2803  
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012  
SOLAR UNITS AT PANCHAYAT LEVEL  
Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any plan for providing subsidy to set up solar energy units at village/panchayat level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of villages that have benefited under this scheme in the country including Punjab during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of beneficiaries under this scheme?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Government has been providing central financial assistance (CFA) of 30% of the cost of installation of stand-alone solar photovoltaic power plants subject to a maximum of Rs. 81,000/- per kWp under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission in General Category States in villages. In Special Category States including North-Eastern States, UT Islands, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, subsidy of 90% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs.243/- per Wp is available for these systems to be installed by village Panchayats. 14178 solar power plants have been sanctioned in the country including 35 in Punjab during the last three years and current financial year.

(c): Ministry and State Nodal Agencies, Banks, NGOs, etc. are regularly organising awareness and capability building programmes, seminars, workshops and exhibitions for promotion of solar PV systems in the country.