

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:321

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012

SOLAR ENERGY

Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the gains likely to be made by using solar energy instead of conventional power;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to tap solar energy in the country on a large scale;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?
- (e) whether the Government proposes to distribute solar heaters, solar cookers, solar water heaters etc. at subsidized rates so as to promote solar energy usage; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

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

Statement

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 321 for 27th April 2012 regarding "Solar Energy"

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. Solar energy has great potential as a future energy source. The use of solar energy is desirable on the grounds of energy security as well as environmental protection. Solar based technologies represent an extremely clean form of generation with practically no form of emissions at the point of generation. Solar energy also has the advantage of permitting a decentralized distribution of energy thereby empowering people at the grass root level besides generating local employment.

(c) & (d): Yes Madam. In January, 2010, the Government launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) with the objective of establishing India as a global leader in solar energy, by creating the policy conditions for its diffusion across the country quickly and achieving a scale to drive down costs to levels required to achieve grid parity as soon as possible. The targets of the Mission include creating an enabling policy framework for the deployment of 20,000 MW of solar power by 2022. The first phase of the Mission targets a capacity addition of 1,100 MW of grid connected solar power by 2013.

(e) & (f): Under the Off Grid Solar Applications Scheme of the JNNSM, the Government provides a Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of 30% of the cost of installation of solar systems which includes solar water heaters, solar cookers, solar air heaters and solar steam generating systems, subject to certain cost benchmarks. CFA is provided at a rate of Rs.3,000/- per square meter of collector area for evacuated tube based systems, and at a rate of Rs.3,300/- per square meter of collector area for flat plate collector based systems.