

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4634
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
Singh Baba Shri K.C.

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

- (a) whether the main purpose behind encouraging the use of renewable energy is to protect the forest cover of the country;
- (b) if so, whether solar energy system has been successful in protecting the forests;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target set by the Government for Uttarakhand under the Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) and the Solar Thermal Energy (STE) programmes and the production made during the last three years;
- (d) whether there is any plan to allocate more funds to encourage the solar energy sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): One of the aims behind encouraging the use of renewable energy is to protect the environment including forests.
- (b): Solar energy systems generate non-polluting power and so save on emissions which may have adverse effects on trees and plants. Also, in areas where wood is used as fuel, use of solar power can prevent deforestation.
- (c): No separate State-wise targets are set by the Government of India under Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) and Solar Thermal Energy (STE) Programmes. However, the projects allocated under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission which are under commissioning/commissioned in Uttarakhand is at Annexure-I.
- (d)&(e): Government of India has approved an overall budget of Rs. 4337 Crore for the first phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission.