

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1249
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
FUNDS SPEND IN RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES
Chaudhary Shri Jayant

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

- (a) the funds allocated and spend towards research and development of evacuation and transmission infrastructure in renewable energy technologies over the last five years;
- (b) if so, the institutions that have been set up by the Government to promote Research and Development in the field and for the incubation of new technologies in the last five years and the fund released for the same;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken a sector specific need identification or equivalent study to determine the R&D needs in different renewable energy technologies and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is dedicated funding for renewable energy based Decentralized Distribution Grids (DDGs);and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith State-wise list of funds that have been released for renewable energy based DDGs and the number of households that have been covered through such projects?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): There is no budgetary provision for research and development of evacuation and transmission infrastructure in renewable energy technologies. Power generated from grid connected renewable power projects is currently evacuated through existing grid system in the respective States where these projects are set up. State transmission utilities, strengthen/create grid system required for evacuation of power from renewable energy projects as well.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been supporting R&D for technology development and demonstration leading to commercialization. A total of 169 R&D projects in the areas of solar energy, bio-energy and hydrogen and fuels cells with budget of Rs.525 crore have been sanctioned to the various R&D institutions, academic institutions, industries, etc during the 11th Plan Five Year Period. Total funds of Rs.239.56 crore were released during the 11th Plan Period for R&D projects.

(c): The Government has notified a comprehensive policy and guidelines for research, design, development, demonstration and manufacture for new and renewable energy sector. It has provisions to support R&D for technology development and demonstration in thrust areas identified, through various academic and research institutions including autonomous bodies and industry. It emphasizes to strengthen Core R&D Groups/Centres so as to take up advanced research involving other institutions. Financial assistance for the projects that involve partnership with industry / civil society organizations is normally restricted to 50% of the project cost. However for a proposal from academic institutions, government/non- profit research organizations and NGOs, ministry may provide upto 100% funding.

(d)&(e): No, Madam. There is no dedicated funding for renewable energy based Decentralized Distribution Grid. However, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is supporting renewable energy systems based projects to meet unmet demand of electricity in rural areas. So far 70 biomass gasifier systems have been set up covering about 250 villages/hamlets in Bihar through local distribution grid. Two mini grid Solar Photovoltaic Power projects of 120kWp have been installed in Jharkhand.