

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3107

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2013

SOLAR CITIES

Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh;Tanwar Shri Ashok

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop solar cities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cities which have been selected/ identified by the Government to be developed as solar cities,State/UT-wise and the criteria/norms for identification/selection of those cities;
- (c) the details of the proposal received from various States and the funds allocated to the States/UTs/local bodies for the purpose and the amount spent therefor;
- (d) whether any task force has been set-up to monitor the programme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has signed any agreement/MoU with any foreign country for the development and cooperation in new and renewable energy sector, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The state-wise names of the Cities identified for developing as Solar Cities are given in Annexure. The criteria set by the Ministry for the identification of cities include a city population between 50,000 to 50 lakh (with relaxation given to special category States including North-Eastern States), initiatives and regulatory measures already taken alongwith a high level of commitment in promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy.

(c): Based on the proposals received from various states, so far, an amount of Rs. 20.23 crore have been sanctioned for preparation of Master Plans, Solar City Cells and Promotional Activities for 43 Cities, out of which Rs. 4.41 crore has been released. Further, an amount of Rs. 14.20 crore has been sanctioned for execution of renewable energy projects in 6 Cities, out of which Rs. 6.11 crore has been released for utilization by the concerned State Nodal Agencies/Municipal Corporations.

(d): An evaluation committee has been constituted for evaluation of the Master Plans being prepared for various Solar Cities. The committee comprises of members from this Ministry, Bureau of Energy Efficiency and Ministry of Urban Development. The overall monitoring of the programme is done through respective State Nodal Agencies for renewable energy.

(e): Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has signed 30 Memorandum of Understandings (MoU)/ Programme of Cooperation (PoC)/Agreements with various countries in the field of Renewable Energy.