

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:137

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

IRREGULARITIES IN JNNSM

Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

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

- (a) the details of the guidelines for regulating the selection of solar power projects under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM);
- (b) whether any irregularity in 1000 MW solar power project under JNNSM had come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had appointed the inter-Ministerial Committee to inquire into the said irregularity and if so, the details thereof including the suggestions/recommendations made by the Committee in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has examined the report and the recommendations of the inter- Ministerial Committee and if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the suggestions/ recommendations of the Committee; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore and the time by which the said report is likely to be examined?

**Answer**

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

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

Statement

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a), (b), (c), (d)& (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 137 for 13th December, 2013 regarding Irregularities in JNNSM

(a): The salient details of the guidelines for Batch-I, Batch-II of Phase-I for regulating the selection of Solar Power Projects under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) are as under:

(i) Guidelines for Selection of New Grid Connected Solar Power Projects under Batch-I, Phase-I of JNNSM

Capacity of Each Project

Solar PV: Given the requirement to connect the project to the TRANSCO substations at 33kV and above, the Project capacity shall be 5 MW  $\pm$ 5% in case of Solar PV Projects and no further variation in the capacity of the Project shall be permitted.

Solar Thermal: Given the requirement to connect the project to the TRANSCO at 33kV and above, the minimum capacity of the Solar Thermal Project shall be 5 MW and the maximum capacity of the Project shall be 100 MW.

Number of Applications by a Company

Solar PV: In order to have wider participation from Solar Power Developers, only one application per Company including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company shall be permitted for development of one project of 5 MW  $\pm$  5% size using a Solar PV Project.

Solar Thermal: The total capacity of Solar Thermal Projects to be allocated to a Company including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company shall be limited to 100 MW. The Company, including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company may submit application for multiple projects at different locations subject to total maximum of 100 MW. The Company shall submit one single application in the prescribed format detailing all projects at multiple locations for which the developer is submitting the application.

Financial Criteria: Net Worth

Solar PV: The "Net Worth" of the company should be equal to or greater than the value calculated at the rate of Rs 3 Crore or equivalent US\$ per MW of the project capacity.

Solar Thermal: The "Net Worth" of the company should be equal to or greater than the value calculated at the rate of Rs 3 Crore or equivalent US\$ per MW of the project capacity upto 20 MW. For every MW additional capacity, beyond 20 MW, additional net worth of Rs 2 crore would need to be demonstrated.

(ii) Guidelines for selection of New Grid Connected Solar Power Projects under Batch-II, Phase-I of JNNSM

#### Capacity of Each Project

Solar PV: Given the requirement to connect the project to the transmission utility substations at 33kV and above, the Project capacity shall be at least 5 MW + 5% in case of Solar PV Projects and the maximum capacity of the Project shall be up to 20 MW  $\pm$  5%. The plant capacity shall remain in multiples of 5 MW.

Solar Thermal: Given the requirement to connect the project to the TRANSCO at 33kV and above, the minimum capacity of the Solar Thermal Project shall be 5 MW and the maximum capacity of the Project shall be 100 MW.

#### Number of Applications by a Company

Solar PV: The total capacity of Solar PV Projects to be allocated to a Company including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company shall be limited to 50 MW. The Company, including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company may submit application for a maximum of three projects at different locations subject to a maximum aggregate capacity of 50 MW. The Company shall submit one single application in the prescribed format detailing all projects at multiple locations for which the developer is submitting the application.

Any capacity of solar power projects allocated to the Project Developer in any of earlier allocations by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy or any other agency shall not be counted for this purpose.

Solar Thermal: The total capacity of Solar Thermal Projects to be allocated to a Company including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company shall be limited to 100 MW. The Company, including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company may submit application for multiple projects at different locations subject to total maximum of 100 MW. The Company shall submit one single application in the prescribed format detailing all projects at multiple locations for which the developer is submitting the application.

#### Financial Criteria: Net Worth

Solar PV: The Net Worth of the company should be equal to or greater than the value calculated at the rate of Rs 3 Crore or equivalent US\$ per MW of the project capacity upto 20 MW. For every MW additional capacity, beyond 20 MW, additional net worth of Rs. 2 Crore would need to be demonstrated.

Solar Thermal: The "Net Worth" of the company should be equal to or greater than the value calculated at the rate of Rs 3 Crore or equivalent US\$ per MW of the project capacity upto 20 MW. For every MW additional capacity, beyond 20 MW, additional net worth of Rs 2 Crore would need to be demonstrated.

The stated guidelines are available on the Ministry's website.

(b): Yes, Madam. An article appeared in the magazine "Down to Earth" in its issue dated 1-15 Feb. 2012 in which allegations were made regarding violation of Guidelines of the 1000 MW Solar Power Project Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) being implemented through NVVN. It was alleged that a private Company got 9 projects aggregating to 235 MW allotted in violation of guidelines.

(c): Yes, Madam. The Government had appointed an inter-Ministerial Committee comprising of representatives from the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Ministry of Power and Ministry of Corporate Affairs to inquire into the allegations.

The Committee has submitted its report and has made a number of recommendations and suggestions such as refining of the guidelines so as to bring in greater clarity regarding definitions of "net worth", "control", etc. It has also recommended more specificity in guidelines regarding selections of EPC contractors and has recommended physical verification of the address of the company and more stringent and specific penalty provisions in case of violation of any clause of the guidelines.

(d)&(e): The report of the Committee and its recommendations are currently under examination by the Government.