

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2841  
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014  
SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for development, promotion and commercialization of solar energy technologies in the country under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission(JNNSM);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has invited bids under the scheme for setting up of solar power projects in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the guidelines issued for the purpose and estimated quantum of power likely to be generated under the said projects; and
- (e) whether the Government has identified places for setting up of such projects and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The Government is promoting the development and deployment of solar energy technologies for various applications under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM). These include technologies for large- scale solar power generation feeding electricity to grid as well as for various off-grid/decentralized electricity and thermal energy needs such as lighting, cooking, space heating/ cooling, crop drying, steam generation, water pumping, etc.

(c)&(d): Yes, Madam. Bids for setting up an aggregate capacity of 750 MW of Grid-connected Solar PV power projects under Batch-1 of JNNSM Phase-II with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Support from the National Clean Energy Fund were invited by the Solar Energy Corporation of India, a PSU of the Ministry, on 28.10.2013. The closing date for receipt of bids was 28.12.2013 which was later extended to 20.1.2014.

The guidelines of the scheme envisage setting up of the projects on Build-Own-Operate basis, purchase of the generated power by Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) at a fixed levelised tariff of Rs.5.45 per kWh for 25 years and its onward sale to willing State Utilities/ Discoms at a fixed tariff of Rs.5.50 per unit for 25 years. The projects are to be selected based on a process of reverse bidding on VGF required by the developers.

It is estimated that the 750 MW capacity projects when commissioned will generate nearly 1.25 billion units of electricity per annum.

(e): No, Madam. The Solar PV power projects under the VGF scheme are to be set up by the project developers on Build-Own-Operate basis at locations of their own choice anywhere in the country.