

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1765  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015  
SOLAR POWER GENERATION  
Chaudhary Shri Santokh Singh

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

- (a) whether Solar Mission recognizes the need to focus on promoting off-grid systems to serve populations without access to commercial energy;
- (b) if so, whether decentralized solar power generation is likely to achieve grid parity earlier than grid connected solar power; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to give greater push through larger support to decentralized renewable power generation?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL & NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a): Yes Madam. Because of importance of off-grid systems for providing power to population without access to energy. Ministry is providing 30% capital subsidy on solar home lights, solar street lights, solar lanterns, solar power packs, solar power plants, solar pumps and solar mini-micro grid. Ministry also provides 40% capital subsidy with mandatory loan from banks at commercial rate of interest for solar lighting systems up to 1 kWp and solar pumps.
- (b): The objective of decentralized solar power is to provide energy access to rural & un-electrified areas or the areas where the grid availability is poor and it cannot be compared with grid power to achieve the grid parity.
- (c): Does not arise.