

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3690  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015  
EFFICIENCY OF SOLAR ENERGY  
Nayak Shri B.V.

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

- (a) whether the efficiency of solar energy units to agricultural usage and its adaptation by the farmers has been on the rise;
- (b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the schemes to encourage cheap solar power in various States and the number of beneficiaries, State-wise;
- (d) whether use of solar energy is costlier; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and plan to make it more popular and cheaper?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Ministry has been implementing solar pumping programme for irrigation and drinking water purpose under which a total of 1,05,366 pumps sanctioned to the various States and NABARD. Ministry is constantly trying to get more efficient solar energy products available for the users.
- (b): State-wise list of pumps sanctioned to the states is given in Annexure-I.
- (c): Ministry is implementing off-grid and decentralized Solar Application Scheme throughout India. State-wise list of household availed subsidy on solar lighting systems is given in Annexure-II.
- (d): Initial cost of the system is high but has very little maintenance cost later.
- (e): Ministry provides capital subsidy under off-grid and decentralized Solar Application Scheme to promote solar power in the country.