

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6017
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY FROM PADDY STRAW
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme for promoting generation of electricity from paddy straw, if so, the details including the salient features of the scheme and the funds spent there-under, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any record regarding the number of units functioning in the country under the aforesaid scheme, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal from Kerala regarding the establishment of electricity generation unit under the aforesaid scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is promoting efficient utilization of biomass like agro-industrial and agricultural residues including paddy straw for power generation in the country. Fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation, concessional customs duty, excise duty exemption, 10 years income tax holiday and preferential tariff are provided for biomass power projects. MNRE provides Central Financial Assistance @ Rs.25.00 lakh per Mega Watt in special category States and Rs.20 lakh per Mega Watt for other States with a cap of Rs. 1.50 crore per project.

Some of the biomass projects have been facing problem of non-viable operations due to high price of biomass and low tariff of electricity in some States. State-wise list is given at Annexure. 165 biomass projects with a total capacity of about 1400 Mega Watts have been set up in the country as on 31st March, 2015. State-wise list is given at Annexure. An amount of Rs.13.22 crores has been released as Central Financial Assistance by MNRE for biomass power projects during the last three years.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Doesn't arise.