

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6710  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015  
SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY PROJECTS  
Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to establish solar and wind energy projects in various districts of Maharashtra on the line of other districts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the various steps taken by the Government to encourage solar and wind energy projects with a view to help out distressed farmers in the State?

**Answer**

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

(a): Grid connected solar power projects, under Government of India scheme of National Solar Mission, are generally allocated to the solar power developers through an open bidding process. The solar power developer is therefore free to choose the location of the project.

Government has launched a new scheme for development of Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects which envisages supporting the States/UTs in setting up solar parks at various locations. Any State/UT is eligible to participate in the scheme and are required to forward proposal to this Ministry. Maharashtra State has not submitted any proposal for solar park.

Wind power is site specific. As such, the projects are installed in wind potential sites depending upon the wind power density.

(b): The Government of India has launched solar pumping programme for irrigation and drinking water under off-grid and decentralized solar applications scheme for 1,00,000 pumps during 2014-15. Out of the 63,736 Solar pumps allocated, Maharashtra has been allocated 7540 solar pumps for irrigation. Apart from above, under the Remote Village Electrification Programme, the Government has provided for lighting/ electricity in the un-electrified remote villages/ hamlets and deployment of decentralized solar thermal systems/ devices (mainly solar cookers / driers for cooking, drying farm produce) under National Solar Mission.

So far as Wind energy projects are concerned there are certain general incentives such as Accelerated Depreciation benefit, concessional custom duty, excise duty exemptions, tax holiday etc. which are applicable to any developer including farmers.

Solar/Wind projects further helps in employment generation and act as a catalyst for general growth of the area.