

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3119

ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014

SOLAR AND WIND POTENTIAL

Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Patil Shri Vijaysinh Mohite;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to tap the country's solar and wind energy potential lying unexplored in the deserts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated solar and wind energy potential of the country and the long term plan to tap the potential;
- (c) the estimated investment required to implement the project for the purpose;
- (d) whether the Government has appointed a Committee to study the cost and economic viability of the projects in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the said Committee submitted its recommendations and if so, the details thereof and the action taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy had assigned a study to the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) to identify likely renewable power potential in desert regions in the states of Rajasthan (Thar), Gujarat (Rann of Kutch), Himachal Pradesh (Lahul & Spiti) and Jammu & Kashmir (Ladakh). In December 2013, the PGCIL submitted a study report titled "Desert Power India- 2050" assessing renewable power potential, transmission infrastructure requirement, balancing reserve etc in the identified desert regions. The report has assessed a total available potential of 315.7 GW of solar and wind power in these regions. The report has further estimated that the investment requirement for harnessing the available potential upto 2050 would be ` 43,74,550 crores.