

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5326
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
PROPOSAL FROM KERALA
Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

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

- (a). the details of measures taken by the Government to increase the solar power production in the country;
- (b). whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for solar energy projects; and
- (c). if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the proposal?

Answer

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

(a): The Government is taking the following major steps and measures to encourage the installation of solar power generation units in the country:

National Solar Mission is being implemented to give a boost to utilization of solar energy for power generation as well as direct thermal energy applications in the country. A long-term goal of adding 20,000 MW of grid-connected solar power by 2022 has been set, to be achieved in 3 phases (1st phase up to 2012-13, 2nd phase: 2013-2017 and 3rd phase: 2017-2022).

An enabling policy and regulatory environment is being created through measures like Solar specific RPOs under National Tariff Policy {0.25% in Phase 1 (2013) to increase to 3% by 2022}, State specific Solar Policies and RPO targets, and REC mechanism. Efforts are being made to ensure compliance by DISCOMs and obligated entities.

Fiscal and financial incentives in the form of accelerated depreciation, concessional/ nil customs and excise duties, preferential tariffs and generation based incentives are being provided to improve viability of solar power generation units.

Schemes for setting up grid-connected solar PV power projects with mechanisms like 'Bundling with unallocated coal based thermal power' and ' Viability Gap Funding from National Clean Energy Fund' are being implemented.

Capital subsidy is being provided for off-grid/ decentralized solar power generation systems.

Solar Parks are being planned in various parts of the country to achieve cost reductions of solar power generation units through utilization of common infrastructure.

A scheme for promotion of grid-connected roof-top PV systems with a provision for 30% subsidy has also been formulated.

(b) & (c): A proposal seeking Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for installation of grid-connected rooftop Solar PV plants of capacities in the range of 1-100 kWp totaling 1830 kWp was submitted by the Agency for Non-Conventional Energy and Rural Technology (ANERT), Kerala in October 2013. Against this, the Ministry has sanctioned CFA of Rs.3.84 crore for plants of 1280 kWp aggregate capacity in December 2013. Release of the CFA will be made after ANERT has invited tenders for setting up of these plants and has firmed up the overall project cost.

Earlier in FY2012-13, the Ministry has sanctioned CFA of Rs.53.52 crore to ANERT for setting up 10,000 nos. of Solar PV plants of 1 kWp capacity each, covering all 14 districts of the State. 6,500 nos. of these plants have reportedly been set up so far and CFA installments totaling Rs.23.86 crore have been released to ANERT till 31.7.2014.