

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3197
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014
SOLAR ENERGY
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the benefits of the use of solar energy in place of conventional energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to exploit solar energy at a large scale;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to distribute solar heater, solar cooker at subsidized rate with a view to promote the use of solar energy; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The assessed benefits of the use of solar energy in place of conventional energy are:

- # Solar Energy is clean and nonpolluting.
- # It reduces the CO2 emissions into environment.
- # Foreign exchange savings, because of fossil fuel substitution.
- # Better energy access, energy security and energy equity.
- # Solar power plants will have less gestation period, compare with conventional power plants.

(c)&(d): The Government has prepared an action plan under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) for Grid and Off-grid Solar energy to install 20,000 MW Grid, 2,000 MW Off-grid power projects and 20 Million Square meter collector area in India.

(e)&(f): Ministry is promoting the use of solar energy by popularizing solar heater, solar cooker. Ministry is providing a capital subsidy upto 30 % for general category states and upto 60 % for special category states like Jammu & Kashmir, North-East states, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Union Territories and Districts of International borders for Solar Cookers.