

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) There is no such proposal. However, it is possible to use solar energy systems in Government offices to meet the day time requirements of lighting. However, this is expensive at present. The Ministry encourages use of such panels where diesel is being used and installation of solar water heaters where hot water is used.

(b) On an average a 1 kWp capacity solar photovoltaic power plant can generate and accordingly save about 1400-1600 units of electricity in a year, depending upon solar radiation available in the region. A commonly used 100 litres per day capacity solar water heater can save about 1200 units of electricity in a year.

(c) It is not desirable to install solar energy systems in all the offices in a short period of time due to the present high costs of such systems. However, sufficient production capacity is available in the country to install solar thermal collectors and solar photovoltaic modules.

#### **Solar energy for solving energy problem**

1164. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is serious enough in generating solar energy to solve the energy problems of the country;

(b) if so, the funds allocated during the Eleventh Five Year Plan for solar research projects;

(c) whether Government has started any projects across the country for generating non-conventional energy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The Government has been implementing wide ranging programmes to develop and promote renewable energy technologies including solar energy in the country. Recently, the Government has announced Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission with a target of creating enabling policy framework for the deployment of 20,000 MW of grid connected solar power, 2000 MW capacity equivalent off-grid solar applications including 20 million-solar lights and 20 million square meter solar thermal collector area by 2022.

(b) A provision of Rs. 160 crores was made during Eleventh Five Year Plan period for research in solar energy.

(c) and (d) So far a total of 15,789 MW capacity renewable energy based grid power projects have been set up in the country, which includes 10949 MW from wind, 2598 MW from small hydro, 2167 MW from biomass including cogeneration, 65 MW from waste to energy and 10 MW from solar energy.