

(d) As mentioned above, the NVVN as the nodal agency will purchase 1,000 MW capacity of grid solar power during first phase of the Mission from the project developers at a tariff fixed by CERC. For each megawatt capacity of solar power for which PPA is signed by NVVN, Ministry of Power will allocate to NVVN an equivalent megawatt capacity from the unallocated quota of NTPC stations. NVVN will bundle this with solar power and sell this power at a rate fixed as per CERC regulations.

Judicial Interference in Advocates' body

*439. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been judicial interference in Advocate body.;

(b) if so, what are the segments strongly protesting such interference and the nature of protests made by Advocates' body in this regard; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to mitigate or nullify such interference?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Bar Council of India has been consulted. They have informed as below:—

“...there has been no evidence of interference in the functioning of Advocates by the judiciary. Bar Council of India has recently been apprised that the regulatory and disciplinary control over the body of advocates is being attempted to be exercised under rule making power of the High Courts. The above mentioned information will be scrutinized by the Bar Council of India as and when it is available. The Bar Council of India believes that the Bar and the Judiciary must work alongwith each other with dignity and mutual respect.

The Bar Council of India will examine the merits of any allegation, with or without protest, as and when it is brought to its attention.

The Bar Council of India will maintain the independence of the bar and ensure that the dignity of the apex body of advocates is not compromised in any manner and that the rule of law is upheld.

Effect of hydro power projects on Bhagirathi river

†*440. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that efforts are afoot to start a hydroelectric project and to launch 53 new projects on Bhagirathi river in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, whether these projects would force the national river Ganga to the brink of extinction, directly affecting 30 per cent of the country's population;

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government for conservation of Ganga river; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.