

Tidal and geothermal energy

1578. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of tidal energy and geothermal energy generated and utilized during the last three years in the country; and

(b) the prospect of their generation as vital energies?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Tidal energy and geothermal energy power plants have not been set up in the country, so far.

(b) As per earlier assessments, the coastal regions of the States of Gujarat and West Bengal have potential for harnessing the tidal energy. The Ministry has sanctioned a project for setting up a 3.75 MW demonstration tidal energy power plant at the Durgaduani Creek in Sunderban region in West Bengal to the West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency (WBREDA), Kolkata. The project is under implementation. The Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL), Gandhinagar has also initiated efforts to prepare techno-economic feasibility report of tidal power generation across the coastline of Gujarat.

As per preliminary resource studies carried out so far, there are potential sites for power generation from geothermal energy in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Uttarakhand. Some of these States have taken steps to undertake detailed studies for confirming the geothermal energy potential and setting up of geothermal energy power plants.

Rate of power generated from solar energy

1579. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any rate for purchase of power generated from solar power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the basis of fixing such rates?