

Installation of solar energy

3875. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal from Uttaranchal Government to install solar energy lights on the pilgrimage route of Hem Kunt (Uttaranchal);

(b) if so, the details of areas to be covered and how many lights are to come up;

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed; and

(d) whether Government will cover the entire stretch of Gobind Ghat-Gobind Dham-Hem Kunt route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (d) A proposal was received from the Uttaranchal Renewable Energy Development Agency, Uttaranchal for installation of 500 solar street lighting system for lighting of 19.5 km path from Gobind Ghat to Govind Dham and Hem Kunt. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has sanctioned a project to the agency for installation of 500 solar street lighting systems on the proposed route by 30th June, 2006.

Supply of electricity in tribal areas

†3876. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems being faced in supply of electricity in the tribal areas of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details of grants given to these States during 2005-06 for the supply of electricity in these States through non-conventional energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing Remote Village Electrification (RVE) programme for providing financial

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

support for electrification of those remote un-electrified census villages and un-electrified hamlets of electrified census villages in various States where grid-extension is either not feasible or not cost effective. Such villages are provided basic facilities for electricity through various non-conventional energy sources. Central Financial Assistance of upto 90% of the benchmark costs of the electricity generation systems is provided for approved projects for electrification of remote un-electrified Census villages/hamlets through non-conventional energy sources.

Funds released under RVE programme during 2005-06 to the three States are as under:

State	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
Gujarat	45
Maharashtra	285
Rajasthan	247

Development of solar and wind energy

3877. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the development of non-conventional energy sources in the country, particularly the solar and wind energies during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereon;

(c) whether any action plan has been chalked out to harness solar, wind and ocean energies to meet the huge power supply needs of the country and at the same time save the environment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements likely to be made thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The Government is promoting development of various renewable energy sources such as wind, small hydro, solar and biomass throughout the country. In this regard, financial and fiscal incentives are being provided that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation,