

(a) whether Government has planned setting up of 1100 MW grid connected solar plants by March, 2013 with the long term aim of 20,000 MW by 2022 towards country's energy security and environmental sustainability;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government would come forward to set up small solar power generation units at village level; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the actions taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Government has approved the target to set up 1,100 MW grid connected solar plants, including 100 MW capacity as small solar plants in the first phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission till March, 2013. The small solar plants can be in the capacity range of 100 kW to 2 MW and connected to the distribution grid below 33 kV. Such plants can be set up in rural areas to feed power to the rural grid.

During 2010-11 Government has allotted grid solar projects of about 800 MW capacity, including 98 MW capacity for small solar power plants.

Another 200 MW capacity off-grid solar applications are also to be supported in the first phase of the Mission through subsidy and/or loan. This includes setting up of off-grid solar plants in villages or providing solar lights and other solar systems in rural areas. During 2010-11, off-grid solar projects of an aggregate capacity of 40.6 MW were sanctioned in the country including projects in the rural areas.

Entry of Israeli companies in Indian Solar Power Sector

109. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Israeli companies are keen to partner with Indian firms for solar power plants in the country as they are looking huge opportunities under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission for developing 1,200 MW of solar power by 2013;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is an opportunity for Indian companies to access sophisticated solar power technology developed by Israeli companies as these companies have developed high-quality techniques for harnessing solar energy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) No Indian company with Israeli partner has so far participated in Solar Power Projects under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission.

(c) and (d) Under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, the solar power plants are to be set up on build, own and operate basis by the project developers, who are free to access suitable technology — indigenous or imported, including from Israeli companies.

Status of National Solar Mission

110. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission is gathering momentum as a large number of projects are moving towards financial closure and achieving land acquisition;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh and the objectives thereof; and

(c) the amount spent, so far?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Government has launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) to develop solar energy technologies to make solar power competitive to conventional grid power by 2022. The Mission aims at setting up of 20,000 MW grid solar power and 2,000 MW of off-grid solar applications. In addition, it aims at installation of 20 million square metre solar thermal collector area by 2022. The Mission is to be implemented in three phases. Government has approved the target to set up 1,100 MW grid connected solar plants, including 100 MW capacity plants as small solar plants for the first phase of the Mission till March, 2013. The projects are to be set up on build, own and operate basis. Another 200 MW capacity off-grid solar applications will also be supported in the first phase of the Mission.

The NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN), the trading subsidiary of NTPC, is the nodal agency for purchase of 1,000 MW capacity of grid solar power (connected to 33 KV and above grid) from the