

Action plan to enhance renewable energy generation

2895. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had initiated an action plan to enhance the power generation through new and renewable energy sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India is blessed with possibility of generating more energy from new and renewable energy sources; and

(d) whether Government is yet to exploit these potentials fully?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The Ministry has formulated a Strategy and Action Plan for the renewable energy sector covering the principal resources of wind, biomass, solar and small hydro. This Plan envisages renewable power generation capacity to increase to 72,400 MW by 2022, comprising 20,000 MW solar power, 38,500 MW wind power, 6,600 MW small hydro power and 7,300 MW bio-power and highlights the resource requirement for achieving the same. The exploitation of solar power is being given a special thrust by the Government under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, launched in January 2010.

(c) and (d) As per various studies undertaken in the past there is an estimated potential of about 89,000 MW for power generation from different renewable energy sources, excluding solar, potential for which has been estimated for most parts of the country at around 30-50 MW per square kilometer of open, shadow free area covered with solar collectors. Against this potential, around 20,800 MW grid interactive renewable power generation capacity (14,723 MW wind power, 3,133 MW small hydro power, 2,898 MW biomass power, and 46 MW solar power) has been installed as on 31.7.2011.

Promotion of renewable energy sources

2896. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new initiatives have been taken by the Central Government in promoting renewable energy sources;

(b) if so, the details of initiatives taken during the last five years, State-wise;

(c) whether these initiatives are suited to the Indian environmental conditions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons why such initiatives have not been taken, so far?