

(d) After receiving representations for amendment of the Anand Marriage Act, 1909 to provide for registration of Sikh marriages, the Government was carefully considering and examining the same. In the light of the decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Shrimati Seema Vs. Ashwani Kumar reported in AIR 2006 SC 1158 whereby the Hon'ble court had directed all State Governments and the Union territory Administrations to make provisions for compulsory registration of marriages of all persons who are citizens of India belonging to various religions in their respective States where the marriages were solemnized, the State Governments and the Union territory Administrations started taking necessary steps and actions in this regard.

Further, the existing position of law is that marriages amongst Sikhs and certain other religious denominations including Hindus, Buddhists, Jainas and other persons who are not Muslims, Christians, Parsis or Jews are contained in the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. Section 8 of the said Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 provides for registration of Hindu marriages and by virtue of the provisions contained in section 2 thereof, registration of Sikh marriages are also covered within its ambit. The scope of the Anand Marriage

Act, 1909 being limited to marriage ceremonies amongst 'Anands', the registration of all forms of Sikh marriages is not within its scope. Further, there may not be any justification for secluding Sikhs from the rest of the categories mentioned above as such a step would invite similar demands from other religious denominations. Also, it is against the directive principles contained in Article 44 of the Constitution which aims at bring in a Uniform Civil Code.

Having regard to the above, the Government has decided to drop the proposal to amend the Anand Marriage Act, 1909.

Assessment of renewable energy sources in NER

*375. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North Eastern Region (NER) of the country is very rich in various forms of renewable energy sources including forest biomass, small and micro hydel and micro-wind;

(b) if so, whether Government has made a detailed, reliable and up-to-date assessment of these resources and put it in the public domain;

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise and State-wise; and

(d) if not, by when Government plans to complete such an assessment and put it in the public domain for better district level planning?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir. North Eastern Region (NER) of the country is rich in some of the renewable energy sources, particularly forest biomass and small/mini/micro hydel.

(b) Details of assessment done till date in respect of the potential for generation of energy/power from various renewable energy resources available in NER and availability thereof in public domain are as under:—

- Biomass resource atlas for the country including NER has been prepared under a project sponsored to IISc Bangalore. It indicates a potential of 334 MW power from surplus biomass residues in the region. The Atlas is available at IISc website.
- Wind resource atlas for the country including NER has been prepared by CWET and the same is available at CWET's website. It indicates a total potential of 406 MW in NER for wind power, including micro-wind.
- Solar resource assessment for the country including NER has been done based on IMD data and also from analysis of satellite imagery. Handbook on solar radiation and solar maps are available on MNRE website.
- Potential for small hydro in NER has been assessed in past by the CEA during 1988-97 and later by AHEC of IIT Roorkee. Details thereof are available in public domain on MNRE and AHEC websites.

(c) and (d) The potential for generation of energy/power from various renewable energy sources in any particular geographical Area/State/District of the NER is reflected in the resource maps mentioned above. The same have been worked out State-wise and are given in Statement.

Statement

State-wise and source-wise details of assessed potential for generation of energy/power from various renewable energy sources

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wind power (MW)	SHP power (MW)	Biomass power (MW)	Solar power (MW/sq.km.)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	201	1328	9	
2.	Assam	53	239	284	
3.	Manipur	7	109	14	
4.	Meghalaya	44	229	11	
5.	Mizoram		167	1	
6.	Nagaland	3	189	10	
7.	Sikkim	98	266	2	
8.	Tripura		47	3	30 MW/sq.km. (approx.)
TOTAL :		406	2573	335	