

Installation of solar water pumps

†3355. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has installed solar water pumps in all the villages across the country during the last year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise including Uttarakhand;
- (c) the details of funds being allocated by the Central Government for this project; and
- (d) the details of villages wherein Government proposes to install solar water pumps during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) 381 numbers of solar water pumps were installed in the States of Arunachal Pradesh (3), Chhattisgarh (64), Delhi (1), Maharashtra (11), Rajasthan (300) and Uttar Pradesh (2) during 2011-12. No solar water pump was installed in Uttarakhand during the year.

(c) The Ministry has not allocated funds separately for the solar water pump sets under the Off-grid Solar Application Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) during 2012-13. However, an amount of Rs. 20.62 crores was released for the installation of 2406 solar pump sets in Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh during 2011-12.

(d) The Ministry sanctions projects to the State Nodal Agencies and other implementing agencies on receiving complete project proposals from them. Therefore, the villages where solar water pumps will get installed will depend on the proposals received and demand from the beneficiaries.

Subsidy to Jharkhand for Solar Power Projects

3356. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern States get a subsidy of 90 per cent in Solar Energy Projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering the idea of giving 90 per cent subsidy to Jharkhand for Solar Energy Projects, so that the backward hilly State would have more developmental projects in this sector;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for not considering the State in the category of NE States?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) Under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, the Ministry provides a capital subsidy of 90% of the benchmark cost limited to Rs. 243/- per watt peak for setting up of SPV systems including power plants and packs by Central and State Government Ministries/ Departments and their organisations, State Nodal Agencies and local bodies in Special Category States, viz., North-Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. For individuals, NGOs and private institutions and organizations, the subsidy is limited to 30% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 81/- per watt peak in these States.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has issued a Scheme of extending 90% subsidy subject to a maximum of Rs. 1,35,000/- for each of the 100 numbers of solar charging stations per district having module capacity of 300 Wp for charging 50 lanterns and 10 mobiles in all the LWE affected districts including in Jharkhand. For other solar photovoltaic systems, the Ministry provides a subsidy of 30% of the benchmark cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 81/- per watt peak with battery storage in Jharkhand.

(e) The Special Category States are decided by the Planning Commission. Currently all the 7 North-Eastern States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand are the Special Category States.

Launching of Biomass Mission

3357. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Biomass based power producers, with an installed capacity of 2,664 megawatt have asked for priority sector status on the lines of agro-sector and have also appealed to Government to launch biomass mission on the lines of solar mission to attract more investment;

(b) whether the biomass based producers have also sought tariff revision as large number of biomass based power plants were lying idle or running below capacity due to tariff; and

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

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Rajasthan Biomass Power Developers Association, Jaipur has requested the Ministry for priority sector status for biomass and to launch Biomass Mission on the lines of Solar Mission.