

1	2	3
24.	West Bengal	50. Howrah*
		51. New Town Kolkata
		52. Madhyamgram
25.	Delhi	53. New Delhi (NDMC)
26.	Jammu and Kashmir	54. Leh

#### **Cheaper energy from renewable sources of energy**

2587. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, once developed to full potential, renewable sources of energy shall provide cheaper energy to the consumers by reducing dependence on costly fuel imports that are currently required to produce energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the proposed plan of action to reach such a State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Renewable energy has the potential to be cost effective with advancement in technologies and economies of scale. Power generation from renewables is at present generally more expensive than that from conventional sources. While cost of power generation from wind, biomass and small hydro are comparable with cost of power from conventional sources, solar power may take some more time to achieve grid parity.

(b) and (c) The total installed capacity of renewable energy based power in the country is 26,267 MW. A capacity addition of 30,000 MW is proposed from renewable energy during the Twelfth Plan period. The Ministry is supporting research in various renewable energy technologies for improvement in efficiency, reduction in cost and to develop new applications.

#### **Finance for power generation from renewable sources of energy**

2588. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and the US have constituted a group to discuss financing options for encouraging power generation from renewable sources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the US-Indian Energy dialogue discussed recently the assessment of solar and wind resources, integration of renewable energy grids and testing of solar models; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The India-US Energy Dialogue was launched on 31st May, 2005 to promote increased trade and investment in the energy sector including renewable energy, through identification of areas of co-operation and collaboration, while actively working with both the public and private sectors. In this context, a meeting of the Working Group on New Technologies and Renewable Energy was held during 26, September, 2012 in Washington DC. The Working Group Meeting discussed among other issues, matters related to enhancement of generation of energy from renewable and low carbon resources, solar and wind resources assessment, wind turbine testing, solar photovoltaic module reliability testing, possibilities of cooperation in the area of integration of renewable in the grid, storage technologies, photovoltaic module reliability and financing Clean Energy technologies.

#### **Solar cities in Maharashtra**

2589. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has identified some cities in Maharashtra for developing them into solar cities by providing solar energy panels on buildings of these cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what is the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry is developing six cities/towns namely Aurangabad, Kalyan — Dombiwali, Nanded, Nagpur, Shirdi and Thane as solar cities. The Master Plans