

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a beginning has already been made in this direction;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) what is the action plan to encourage the above people-friendly system in the settlement colonies to supplement the power supply system?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir. However, Government is encouraging those who want to set up solar power plants.

(b) Does Not arise.

(c) and (d) Under the Off-grid and Decentralized Solar Application scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, the Ministry provides a subsidy of 30% of the project cost ranging from Rs. 42/- to Rs. 12/- per watt peak for off-grid SPV power plants having module capacity upto 100 kWp depending on their capacity and configuration in general category States including Delhi.

(e) Under the scheme, the Ministry is also providing a capital subsidy of 30% of the cost of the system subject to maximum of Rs. 81/- per watt peak for installation of solar street lighting systems, solar home lighting systems and solar lanterns in the country including the settlement colonies.

Initiative in renewable energy sector

4285. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to develop new technologies in renewable energy sources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the progress made and the potential of such new technologies, technology-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been

implementing broad-based Research, Development and Demonstration (RD and D) Programme on New Technologies such as Hydrogen Energy, Fuel Cells, Battery Operated Electric Vehicles, Bio-Fuels, Tidal Energy and Geothermal Energy through research and academic institutions and State nodal agencies for more than a decade. Financial support up to 100% of project cost is provided by the Ministry for implementation of RD and D projects.

(c) As a result of RD and D Programme of the Ministry, laboratory scale and industrial prototypes of hydrogen energy and fuel cell based systems for stationary power generation and automotive applications have been developed and demonstrated. A total of 20 R and D projects in the area of biofuels and 30 projects in the area of hydrogen energy and fuel cells, supported by the Ministry, are presently in progress at various research and academic institutions. About 47,000 numbers of battery operated vehicles have been deployed in the country with the financial support provided by the Ministry. A study undertaken for the assessment of tidal power potential in the country by the Central Electricity Authority, estimated potential of about 7,000 MW in the country. The total estimated potential for geothermal based power generation in the country is around 10,000 MW. Further, the Ministry has supported resource assessment studies at potential geothermal sites.

Tapping of market for PV modules

4286. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) in the light of World's largest producer of PV modules and other components Suntech Power Holdings, China, submitting its bankruptcy application, how Indian Solar Power components companies would take advantage of and tap world market;

(b) the details of domestic demand for PV modules and other components; and

(c) the exports made by Indian companies to other countries during the last five years, year-wise and country-wise?