

**Power generation from solar wind energy**

†\* 191. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the power being generated annually, in megawatts, through solar and wind energy in the country;

(b) the steps taken by Government to promote non-conventional energy sources during the last eight years, in view of the rising power crisis in the country; and

(c) the number of power stations functioning in the country for generating power from non-conventional sources of energy?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) So far 18,635 MW of wind power projects and 1,447 MW of solar power projects have been setup in the country. These are expected to generate about 36 million units of electricity annually.

(b) The Government has been promoting use of renewable energy by giving various fiscal and financial incentives, such as capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, concessional excise and customs duties. In addition, other steps include preferential tariff for purchase of power generated from renewable sources, introduction of Renewable Energy Certificates and Renewable Purchase Obligation. Out of 27,295 MW renewable power generation capacity installed in the country, 20,176 MW have been added during the last 8 years.

(c) About 25000 Wind Turbines, 948 Small Hydro projects (upto 25MW capacity), 370 Bio-energy based projects and about 225 Solar power projects have been set up in the country for generating power.

**New benches of High Courts**

\*192. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by the Central Government to set-up another bench of High Court apart from the existing High Court benches;

(b) why the Central Government is not granting permission to set up another bench of High Court at Surat in Gujarat;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.