

Task force on terror-related matters

1791. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to set up a separate task force that would look into terror-related matters involving minorities, as suggested by the Minister in July, 2013;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the proposed modus operandi; and

(c) the ways in which this force shall coordinate with other existing security agencies?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): (a) to (c) The matter has been discussed at an appropriate level and referred to Ministry of Home Affairs to set up a separate task force in the Ministry of Home Affairs to look into terror-related matters involving minorities. Ministry of Minority Affairs has no role in this regard.

Encouragement of solar parks

1792. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to encourage development of solar parks in the country to generate power;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating the status of such projects in the country;

(c) whether the Central Government bears the full cost of development of such parks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The Ministry has identified development of Solar parks as one of the

thrust areas to facilitate speedy installation of solar power plants utilising common infrastructure and to achieve reduction in cost of solar power. It has requested Governments of major solar potential rich States to identify at least 2000 acres of land for such parks in their State.

The first Solar Park was set up at Charanakha, District Patan, Gujarat under the Gujarat Solar Policy over an year ago with capacity for setting up 500 MW solar power plants, out of which a capacity of around 214 MW is reported to have been established so far.

Foundation stone has been laid recently for another Solar Park at Bhadla, District Jodhpur, Rajasthan with a capacity for setting up 3000 MW capacity solar power plants and with separate zones for manufacturing, research and development and training centres and other amenities.

(c) No, Sir. However, the developers of solar power projects in such parks can avail the incentives under different schemes of the National Solar Mission announced from time to time.

(d) Not applicable.

Biogas units in rural areas

1793. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides Central assistance to States to promote setting up of biogas units in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Central assistance provided to Maharashtra for this purpose during the last four years, year-wise;

(d) the number of biogas units established in the rural areas of the State during the said period; and

(e) the other measures Government proposes to initiate for setting up of bio-gas units in Maharashtra?