

Solar PV Power projects under mechanism of Bundling with Unallocated Coal based Thermal Power is being formulated.

- A scheme for promotion of grid-connected roof-top PV systems with a provision for 30% subsidy has also been formulated.
- Solar Parks are being planned in various parts of the country to achieve cost reductions of solar power generation units through utilization of common infrastructure.

Accidents due to faulty design of Volvo buses

*83. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the spate of accidents involving Volvo buses in the country during the last one year or so;

(b) whether Ministry is also aware that the investigation made by CID of Andhra Pradesh revealed that there is a flaw in the design of these buses;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry would direct the company to change the design of its buses or ban them in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) As per the information received by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, there was an accident involving a Volvo bus in Andhra Pradesh on 30th October, 2013 resulting in death of 45 persons due to burning. Another accident involving a Volvo bus took place in Karnataka on 14th November, 2013, resulting in death of seven persons.

(b) to (d) The accident that took place at Palem, near Kothakota, Mahabubnagar District on Bangalore-Hyderabad Highway was investigated by the Crime Branch, CID, Andhra Pradesh. A copy of the report dated 19.06.2014 (without Annexures) of CID, Telangana, was received from Government of Telangana, (Police Department) on 10th July, 2014. The same is under examination.

Action Plan for continuous and clean flow of river Ganga

†*84. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) Government's action plan for continuous and clean flow of river Ganga;
- (b) by when, the river would be pollution-free; and
- (c) whether Government would also prepare such action plan for other rivers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) Government is giving special attention to rejuvenation of River Ganga. Consultation with different stakeholders viz., Ministries such as Ministry of Environment and Forests; Water Resources, Ganga Rejuvenation and River Development; Urban Development; Tourism; Shipping; Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation; Rural Development, etc., as well as academics, technical experts and NGOs associated with cleaning of Ganga, is in progress. Crystallisation of action plan, including framing of its salient features, time line and likely expenditure would be known only after the finalisation of the action plan for cleaning of River Ganga.

- (c) Based on the results of the action plan for Ganga, Government may extend the action plan in a phased manner for other major rivers of the country.

Allocation of coal blocks

*85. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) how many coal blocks have been allocated during the last five years in the country;
- (b) how many of them have failed to start production;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to cancel these allocations; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) A total of 19 coal blocks to various public and private sector companies were allocated during the last five years. Out of the 19 coal blocks, 12 coal blocks have since been de-allocated. As such 07 coal blocks stand allocated which were allocated during the last five years.

Further, the Government has notified the "Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012" on 2nd February, 2012. Coal/lignite blocks are now to be