

**Progress of solar radiation resource assessment**

1621. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any progress in the project on Solar Radiation Resource Assessment (SRRA) across the nation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the Solar Atlas and the data on State-wise solar potential is likely to be available in public domain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Solar Radiation Resource Assessment (SRRA) Project is being executed in two phases by National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), Chennai. Installation and commissioning of all 111 Solar Radiation Resource Assessment stations sanctioned under both Phase-I and II along with four Advanced Monitoring Stations (AMS) has been completed and now radiation data is available.

(c) NIWE, on behalf of Government of India, is working in collaboration with GIZ, Germany to prepare Solar Map of India for which procurement of commercially available satellite based solar data has been finalized. The solar atlas will be validated with ground measurement from SRRA stations and available for public in about six months time from now. State-wise solar potential is already available as estimated by National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE).

**Biomass-based power supply**

1622. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a great potential for biomass-based power supply in the country which is reliable as it is free of fluctuations unlike wind power and does not need storage to be used in time of non-availability;
- (b) if so, what Government is doing to encourage establishing biomass based power plants in the country;
- (c) what Government is doing to ensure supply chain of biomass to the existing power plants in the country; and