

17. PSN College of Engineering & Technology, Melathediur,
Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli District.
18. National Engineering College, K.R. Nagar, Kovilpatty
19. Sudharsan Engineering College, Satyamangalam, Kulathur TK, Pudukkottai
20. J.A. College for women, Mount St. Anee, Thamaraiikulam Post, Theni

Potential of NCES in India

1538. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has a huge potential of non-conventional energy sources;
- (b) if so, whether government propose to constitute a technology mission for popularization and expansion of non-conventional energy sources;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) in what manner Government propose to encourage people especially in rural areas to adopt non-conventional energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The potential for grid interactive power from wind, small hydro and biomass is estimated at around 80,000 MW in the country.

(b) and (c) The progress attained so far in various aspects of development and deployment of non-conventional energy sources in the country has been satisfactory. The Ministry has recently constituted a National Hydrogen Energy Board for preparing a hydrogen road map for the country as also overseeing its implementation.

(d) The Ministry is providing financial and fiscal incentives under various programmes/schemes for deployment of non-conventional energy systems/devices in the country, including rural areas. This includes financial support up to 90% of the project cost for remote village electrification. Solar aditya shops are to be opened in every district, in a phased manner, to provide a retail outlet for renewable energy systems and devices and back up support services. With a view to popularize renewable energy in rural areas, a District Advisory Committee on

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RAJYA SABHA

Renewable Energy has been constituted at every district to oversee the implementation of Renewable Energy Programmes in the district. In addition, 20th August—the birthday of the late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi is being observed as 'Rajiv Gandhi Akshya Urja Diwas' to focus attention on the deployment of renewable energy systems and devices in rural as well as urban areas. The aim is to provide "Gaon-Gaon Bijli, Ghar-Ghar Prakash" meaning electricity in every village and light in every home.

Bio-mass resource atlas for India

1539. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project "Bio-mass resource atlas for India" is being undertaken;

(b) by when the project will be completed; and

(c) the benefits that would accrue out of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes Sir, a project for development of Biomass resource atlas has been awarded to Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, who will develop the atlas jointly with Indian Space Research Organization and the National Informatics Centre.

(b) It is expected that the initial version of the Biomass resource atlas would be available by the end of 2005. The final version of the atlas, suitably adapted for web application is expected to be ready by March, 2007.

(c) The main benefit of the atlas will be the facilitation of a systematic exploitation of the biomass resource in various States of the country for energy applications. The atlas would enable potential entrepreneurs, planners, financial institutions, etc., to identify favourable locations for biomass based energy generation projects.

New power projects in Rajasthan and Punjab

1540. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether new power projects are proposed to be started in Rajasthan and Punjab; and