

Current solar power generation cost and possibility of its reduction

385. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present solar power cost has reduced substantially in comparison to that in 2010;

(b) if so, what is the current cost on solar power generation and distribution;

(c) what steps Government plans to take to reduce the generation and distribution cost further; and

(d) whether Government has tied up with other countries to borrow latest technology in solar power sector?

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

(b) The tariff determined by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) in case of Solar Photo Voltaic Projects is ₹ 5.68 per kWh and ₹ 5.09 per kWh without and with Accelerated Depreciation benefit respectively. However, in a bidding in the State of Rajasthan, the tariff discovered has come to ₹ 4.34 per kWh.

(c) The Government is promoting solar energy through fiscal and promotional incentives such as capital and/or interest subsidy, tax holiday on the earnings for 10 years, generation based incentive, accelerated depreciation, Viability Gap Funding (VGF), financing solar rooftop systems as part of home loan, concessional excise and custom duties, preferential tariff for power generation from renewables, and Foreign Direct Investment up to 100 per cent under the automatic route etc. This apart, the Government has been supporting solar manufacturing by way of various mechanisms such as Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

(d) No, Sir. However, Ministry has tied up with bilateral/multilateral agencies to support research and development, development of solar parks and rooftop systems.

Training and capacity building of elected members of PRIs

†386. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for the training and capacity building of elected members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) of Chhattisgarh and other States of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.