

(c) Developing floating solar plants helps in saving land, reducing evaporation losses in reservoirs, and higher electricity generation than conventional ground mounted solar PV power projects due to cooling effect on solar panels.

(d) Government is regularly interacting with various stakeholders, including experts, to apprise them of latest developments in the field of solar energy, including floating solar, world across. In this context, a team of officials from SECI had visited floating solar power projects in China and some other countries.

KUSUM scheme

1071. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated and rolled out the Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahaabhiyan (KUSUM) scheme to promote the use of solar power among farmers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the expected timeline by which the KUSUM scheme is likely to be formulated and rolled-out;

(c) the number of solar pumps and solar power plants that are proposed to be provided/established under the KUSUM scheme, State-wise; and

(d) the expected/actual budget allocated towards the KUSUM scheme, over the next five years, from the State and Central Budgets, particularly the Central Financial Assistance required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) to (d) The Government is formulating a Scheme 'Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahaabhiyan (KUSUM)' which *inter alia* aims to promote use of solar energy among the farmers. The proposed scheme provides for:—

- (i) setting up of grid-connected renewable power plants each of 500KW to 2 MW in the rural area;
- (ii) installation of standalone off-grid solar water pumps to fulfil irrigation needs of farmers not connected to grid; and
- (iii) solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps to make farmers independent of grid supply and also sell surplus solar power generated to Discom and get extra income.

The Scheme is under consideration of the Government and therefore, detailed provisions are yet to be finalized.

CSR expenditure by power sector PSUs

1072. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) total amount spent by the Power PSUs under their CSR funds in North East India during the last three financial years;

(b) the total amount spent by the Power PSUs under their CSR funds all over India and details, State-wise and PSU-wise, thereof;

(c) the details of activities in which the Power PSUs spend their CSR funds in North East India; and

(d) whether Government has given any directive to the Power PSUs to spend more funds for the States of North East and if not reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Total amount spent by the Power CPSEs under their CSR funds all over India during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 was ₹ 248962.2 lakhs, out of which ₹ 15743.96 lakhs was spent in North East India. State-wise/CPSE-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The main activities on which Power CPSEs have spent their CSR funds are as under:—

- Promoting Education/Skill Development/Sports/Culture/Art.
- Healthcare
- Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP)
- Backward Area Development/Rural Development/Sustainable Development
- Swachh Bharat Abhiyan/Sanitation/Safe Drinking Water.
- Setting up and operation of Disability Rehabilitation Centre.
- Community development programme for ultimate utilization of the naturally available nutrition, food and energy around the communities.
- Installation/distribution LED TV in households of villages of Arunachal Pradesh.