

**Impact of Coronavirus on solar industry**

1321. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's renewable energy market has slowed this year, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether issues related to tariff caps, land acquisition and import duty on solar cells and modules have slowed the pace of solar capacity addition, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the situation relating to the spread of Coronavirus in China will impact the solar industry in India in months to come; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the alternative arrangements being put in place to obviate the difficulties that may arise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) and (b) A Total of 8004.64 MW of renewable energy capacity has been installed during the period from April 2019 to January, 2020 as compared to 5978.47 MW installed during the same period during the financial year 2018-19. The Government has set a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by the year 2022 which includes 100 GW from solar, 60 GW from wind, 10 GW from Biomass and 5 GW from Small Hydro. So far, as on 31st January 2020, a cumulative renewable energy of 86.32 GW has been installed in the country. Further, an additional capacity of 35.09 GW is under various stages of implementation and 34.47 GW under various stages of bidding.

Major challenges being faced by the developers in commissioning of renewable projects are land acquisition, evacuation infrastructure, non-conducive state policies in certain states for development of renewable power and lack of business environment such as unwillingness of DISCOMS to purchase RE power, delay in making timely payment to RE generators by DISCOMs, curtailment and seeking revision of PPAs etc.

(c) and (d) The solar industry is under no compulsion to import solar cells/modules and other equipment from China. They are free to meet their requirement either from domestic market or alternative sources. Further, the Government is actively promoting

domestic manufacturing of solar equipment in India through: (i) M-SIPS scheme of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology; (ii) World Trade Organisation (WTO) compliant domestic content requirement in MNRE's Schemes like PM-KUSUM, CPSU Scheme Phase-II and Grid-connected Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II; and (iii) tenders for setting up solar PV manufacturing facilities linked to setting up of solar PV power plants.

The Government of India through O.M. No. 18/4/2020-PPD dated 19th February, 2020 from Procurement Policy Division, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, has already clarified that disruption of supply chains due to spread of corona virus in China or any other country should be considered as a case of natural calamity and force majeure clause may be invoked, wherever considered appropriate, following the due procedure.

#### **Loans for purchase of various agricultural equipments**

1322. LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):  
SHRI VIJAYPAL SINGH TOMAR:  
SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes run by Government for grant of loans for purchase of various agricultural equipments;
- (b) the TOTAL amount of loans granted, rate of interest charged on such loans to the farmers under the schemes by banks and the loans amount outstanding against them, equipment-wise, State-wise and Bank-wise; and
- (c) whether banks are providing any concession to farmers who make timely repayment of loans for purchase of agricultural equipments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) to (c) The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was introduced in 1998 for issue of KCC to farmers. The scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system under a single window with flexible and simplified procedure to the farmers to meet their short term credit requirements for cultivation of crops, investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities and other needs.