

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2214
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2022

EQUIPMENTS FOR SOLAR POWER INSTALLATION

2214. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a plan to boost production of equipments needed for solar power like solar wafers, cells and inverters to reduce import dependency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the details of any future plan Government might be considering;
- (d) whether Government is considering the environmental impact of the ground-mounted solar power installations versus rooftop installations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action plan for the same?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a)to(c) In order to boost production of equipment needed for solar power and reduce import dependency, the Government has taken a number of steps, inter-alia, including:

(i) Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) Scheme of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: The scheme mainly provides subsidy for capital expenditure – 20% for investments in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 25% in non-SEZs. The Scheme was open to receive applications till 31st December, 2018. The Scheme included incentives for solar PV cells, solar PV modules, EVA, backsheet and solar glass.

(ii) Preference to ‘Make in India’ in Public Procurement in Renewable Energy Sector: Through implementation of ‘Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order’, procurement and use of domestically manufactured solar PV modules and domestically manufactured solar inverters has been mandated for Govt/ Govt. entities.

(iii) Domestic Content Requirement (DCR): Under some of the current schemes of the MNRE, namely CPSU Scheme Phase-II, PM-KUSUM and Grid-connected Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II, wherein government subsidy is given, it has been mandated to source solar PV cells and modules from domestic sources.

(iv) Imposition of Basic Customs Duty on import of solar PV cells & modules: The Government has announced imposition of Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on import of solar PV cells and modules with effect from 01.04.2022.

(v) Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules: MNRE has issued the Scheme Guidelines for Production Linked Incentive Scheme 'National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules', with an outlay of Rs. 4,500 crores for supporting manufacturing of high efficiency solar PV modules by providing Production Linked Incentive (PLI) on sales of such solar PV modules. Letters of Award have been issued to the eligible successful bidders to the extent of funds allocated (i.e. the present scheme outlay of Rs. 4,500 crore). An additional outlay of Rs 19,500 crore has been announced in the Budget 2022-23 on 1st February 2022.

(d) & (e) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide its O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 13.05.2011 have clarified that the solar PV power projects are not covered under the ambit of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and no environment clearance is required for such projects under the provisions thereof.
