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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1082
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2022

SHORTFALL OF SOLAR POWER TARGET

1082. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV

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

- (a) whether the anticipated shortfall from the 2022 solar power target can be attributed to a string of challenges which are slowing overall progress on renewable energy targets and to get back on track;
- (b) whether Government proposes short and long term measures thereon, if so, the details and present status thereof; and
- (c) whether the measures include uniform policies to apply nationally for at least next five years, consistent regulations for net metering and banking facilities, which should apply nationally, strictly enforcing renewable purchase obligations, if so, the details and present status thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

- (a) The Government has set a target of achieving 100 GW solar power capacity by December, 2022 in the country. Against this, a capacity of 123.11 GW has either been commissioned or is in the pipeline. The details are as under:

(as on 30.06.2022)

Solar projects commissioned (including off-grid)	57.71 GW
Solar projects under implementation	48.71 GW
Solar projects under Tendering	16.69 GW

The challenges in implementation of solar energy projects include :

- environmental issues like the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) issue in Rajasthan and Gujarat;
- Deceleration of pace of implementation to a considerable extent due to COVID pandemic.
- acquisition of clear land,
- mismatch in timelines between solar projects and power evacuation infrastructure;

(b)&(c) The Government has taken several measures to promote Renewable Energy, including solar energy, in the country. These include:-

- permitting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100 percent under the automatic route,
- waiver of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charges for inter-state sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned by 30th June 2025,
- laying of new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity under the Green Energy Corridor Scheme for evacuation of renewable power,
- notification of standards for deployment of solar photovoltaic system/devices,
- setting up of Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments,
- Standard Bidding Guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding process for procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar PV and Wind Projects.
- Government has issued orders that power shall be dispatched against Letter of Credit (LC) or advance payment to ensure timely payment by distribution licensees to RE generators.
- Conducting skill development programmes to create a pool of skilled manpower for setting up, operation and maintenance of RE projects.

The Government has also undertaken the following regulatory measures for promotion of renewable energy:

(i) Notification of Green Energy Open Access Rules, 2022;

(ii) Amendment to the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020;

(iii) Notification of Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules, 2022.

Regarding Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPO), Ministry of Power (MoP) had notified the RPO trajectory upto 2021-22. To recommend RPOs beyond 2022, a Group was constituted under the co-chairmanship of Secretary, MNRE and Secretary, MoP. The Group has submitted its report.
