

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON

EX ANTE GRID CONNECTIONS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

1211

Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu

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

- (a) whether the interest in renewable energy projects could be considerably increased if ex-ante-grid connection is made available in locations where these sources are most cheaply available;
- (b) whether Government has identified such favorable locations and proposes to launch a specific programme to provide ex-ante renewable energy compatible grid facilities in such locations by public or private sector agencies;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the alternative steps being taken by Government to assure developers for hassle-free evacuations and transmission of electricity from their renewable energy projects in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): The provision of grid-connection for any power project, including renewable power project, is an integral part of the Power Purchase Agreement signed by project developers with concerned State Utilities, which are required to facilitate evacuation facilities under the enabling provisions of the Electricity Act 2003. Accordingly this forms part of the normal planning process of State Utilities and is usually made available co-terminus with the projects' completion. As such, provision of these facilities ex-ante may not lead to significantly increased interest of the developers, who are guided more by the projects' techno-economic viability determining likely returns on their investment. The Ministry is facilitating identification of favourable/ potential sites for setting up renewable power projects through support to resource assessment studies, etc.